

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



**NEW
RELATIONSHIP
TRUST
FOUNDATION**

**2018–2019
SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY
AWARD RECIPIENTS**



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INVESTING IN



2018-2019
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AND BURSARY
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OUR FUTURE

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS AND CEO



Judith Sayers

Chair, New Relationship Trust Foundation

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2018–19 Scholarship and Bursary Award Recipient Brochure. This is a yearly highlight for us as we are able to honour and share the educational successes of each of our award recipients in our brochure.

Each year, we support Indigenous students across the province as they pursue their post-secondary educational goals and work towards obtaining their dream careers. 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 workforce of the future. We are extremely proud and honoured to help them along their journeys as they strive to better their own lives and the lives of those around them.

In 2018-19, we provided funding support for 354



Hugh Braker

Chair, New Relationship Trust

students. This represents the highest number of students supported in a scholastic year to date and has increased from the 308 awards given in 2017-18. This is the second year in which we have supported Métis students and students who are from Indigenous 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 Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands, and St. James School of Medicine in the Caribbean.

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.

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



Cliff Fregin

CEO, New Relationship Trust

As the Indigenous population grows, the demand for scholarships and bursaries increases each year. This results in having to turn down a large number of applicants due to a lack of funds. With the generous support of our donor partners that number is slowly decreasing, however, we are still seeking more partners to help us alleviate the financial stresses faced by Indigenous students.

In 2017-18, we welcomed the Province of BC – Early Years & Indigenous Early Years Policy and Programs as our Partner. This partnership has supported 188 bursaries and scholarships to date. We also welcomed several returning partners: First Nations Health Authority, Scotiabank, Canfor, The Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation, Drillwell Enterprises Ltd., 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,

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

Judith Sayers
Chair, New Relationship Trust Foundation

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

Hugh Braker
Chair, New Relationship Trust

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

Cliff Fregin
CEO, New Relationship Trust



NEW
RELATIONSHIP
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NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST FOUNDATION

MISSION:

To assist Indigenous peoples in BC separately and collectively to meet their education goals.

ABOUT NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST FOUNDATION

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 2,377 scholarships and bursaries totaling \$10.5 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.



SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS

The NRT Foundation realizes the importance of education. The New Relationship Trust Post-Secondary Education Scholarship program 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, Associate Degrees and Certificates.

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

2,377 Scholarships and Bursaries have been awarded to students at all levels of post-secondary education.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Post-Secondary Scholarships are available to all Indigenous students from BC who will attend an accredited post-secondary institution on a full-time basis.

Together, with the support of Partners and Donors, the NRT Foundation has awarded a total of 1,233 Scholarships since inception.

BURSARIES

Bursaries are available to all eligible Indigenous students who are enrolled in Certificate, Diploma, Associates Degrees, and/or Trades programs. Students who are enrolled in a post-secondary institution and remain in good academic standing are encouraged to apply for an NRT Foundation Bursary.

Together, with the support of Partners and Donors, the NRT Foundation has awarded a total of 1,144 Bursaries since inception.

RECIPIENT DATABASE

The NRT Foundation maintains a database of past scholarship and bursary award recipients. The individuals in the database are contacted by the NRT Foundation to inform them about employment and internship opportunities. This service is available to NRT Foundation Donors and Partners who are looking to fill positions with qualified employees.

To learn more about this opportunity and how to get involved, please contact Rochelle Saddleman, Partnerships and Marketing Manager at (604) 925-3338 or rsaddleman@nrta.ca.

SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES AWARDED 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	103	69	18	12	-	202
2016/17	129	85	17	14	-	245
2017/18	171	93	29	15	-	308
2018/19	200	104	30	20	-	354
TOTAL	1,144	727	244	138	124	2,377





NEW
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2019 NRTF GOLF TOURNAMENT



2019 GOLF TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 1, 2019

University Golf Club | Vancouver, BC

The 2019 NRT Foundation Charity Golf Tournament will be held on August 1, 2019 at the University Golf Club in Vancouver, BC. With your help, we will raise \$50,000 for the NRT Foundation to support Indigenous post-secondary students across British Columbia.



Support for the 2019 Golf Tournament will create scholarships & bursaries for BC Indigenous students

11:30AM Registration | 1:00PM Shotgun Start

\$250 per Golfer. Amazing prizes to be won! To register or learn more about the tournament, please visit the NRT Foundation golf website at nrtfgolf.ca, or contact Marie Alaimo at: (604) 925-3338 or malaimo@nrtf.ca.

Registration includes:

- 2 Person Best Ball Tournament
- 18 Holes of Golf
- Lunch Provided
- Golf Cart Provided
- Dinner at Westward Ho!

2018 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thank you to the 2018 Sponsors

Aquilini Development

Beedie

BMO

Burgundy Asset Management Ltd

Dilawri Group of Companies

Ecofish Research

First Nations Health Authority

Kinder Morgan Canada Ltd.

Ledcor

MNP

TD Bank Group

Temixw

TimberWest

BMO

Darrell Mounsey

HaiCo

Joshua Real Estate

Consultants Ltd

Lee Barter

Melville Global / Brand Live

Native Northwest

Rogue Kitchen and Wetbar

Shain Jackson

Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel

Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel

Skwachays Lodge

Spirit Ridge Lake Resort, Winery and Sacred Land

Syncra

Vancouver Airport Marriott

Water Street Café

West Coast Sightseeing

YEW Restaurant

The 2018 NRT Foundation Charity Golf Tournament was held on August 2, 2018 at the University of BC Golf Club in Vancouver, BC.

Golf Tournament Revenue

2011-12	\$18,049
2012-13	\$18,958
2013-14	\$21,729
2014-15	\$26,228
2015-16	\$31,927
2016-17	\$30,970
2017-18	\$32,634
2018-19	\$40,984*
TOTAL	\$221,479

**2018-19 revenue is projected.*

Thank you to the 2018 Donors

Bill Reid Gallery

SEEKING INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Your support will help Indigenous students in BC to complete a post-secondary certificate, diploma, trade or degree. In addition, it will help the New Relationship Trust Foundation to build an endowment fund that supports Indigenous scholarships and bursaries for generations to come.

The NRT Foundation offers partners the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to building the capacity of BC Indigenous people. By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, every partner is helping students realize education goals, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and helping to create the skilled workforce that will enable British Columbia to meet its future economic and social development needs. Each partnership is tailored to meet the needs of potential funding partners and the BC Indigenous community.

The New Relationship Trust Foundation is a registered Canadian charity. Charitable tax Receipts will be provided to donors in accordance with CRA guidelines.



THE TIME TO SUPPORT INDIGENOUS EDUCATION IS NOW!

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Empowering Indigenous Communities

Indigenous people have been historically disadvantaged at all levels of education attainment; investing in Indigenous education achieves a profound effect in addressing the following disparities:

**20.6%
POINT GAP**

IN HIGH SCHOOL
COMPLETION RATES
OF INDIGENOUS
STUDENTS COMPARED
TO NON-INDIGENOUS
CANADIANS.

**37% OF
INDIGENOUS
YOUTH**

HAVE SOME FORM OF
POST-SECONDARY
COMPARED TO

**51% OF
NON-
INDIGENOUS
YOUTH**

**NON-
INDIGENOUS
CANADIANS
ARE
5 TIMES**

MORE LIKELY TO HAVE
A UNIVERSITY DEGREE
THAN INDIGENOUS



**\$2,000
LESS
PER CAPITA**

IS SPENT ON
INDIGENOUS
PRIMARY &
SECONDARY
EDUCATION THAN
THE REST OF BC.

BUILDING A STRONG WORKFORCE

British Columbia is facing a growing skilled labour shortage; investing in Indigenous education builds a workforce that guarantees BC's future economic prosperity.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST FOUNDATION IS A REGISTERED CANADIAN CHARITY.



WITH NEARLY HALF OF THE INDIGENOUS POPULATION UNDER THE AGE OF 25, IT IS ESTIMATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT OVER 600,000 INDIGENOUS YOUTH WILL ENTER THE LABOUR MARKET IN THE NEXT 25 YEARS



INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES ARE LOCATED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO MOST URBAN CENTRES, TOWNS, AND RURAL WORK SITES



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE LOOKING TO PARTNER WITH ORGANIZATIONS TO IMPROVE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

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

Seeking industry support

The NRT 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:

Rochelle Saddleman

Partnerships & Marketing Manager

NRT Foundation

(604) 925-3338 ext. 107

rsaddleman@nrtf.ca





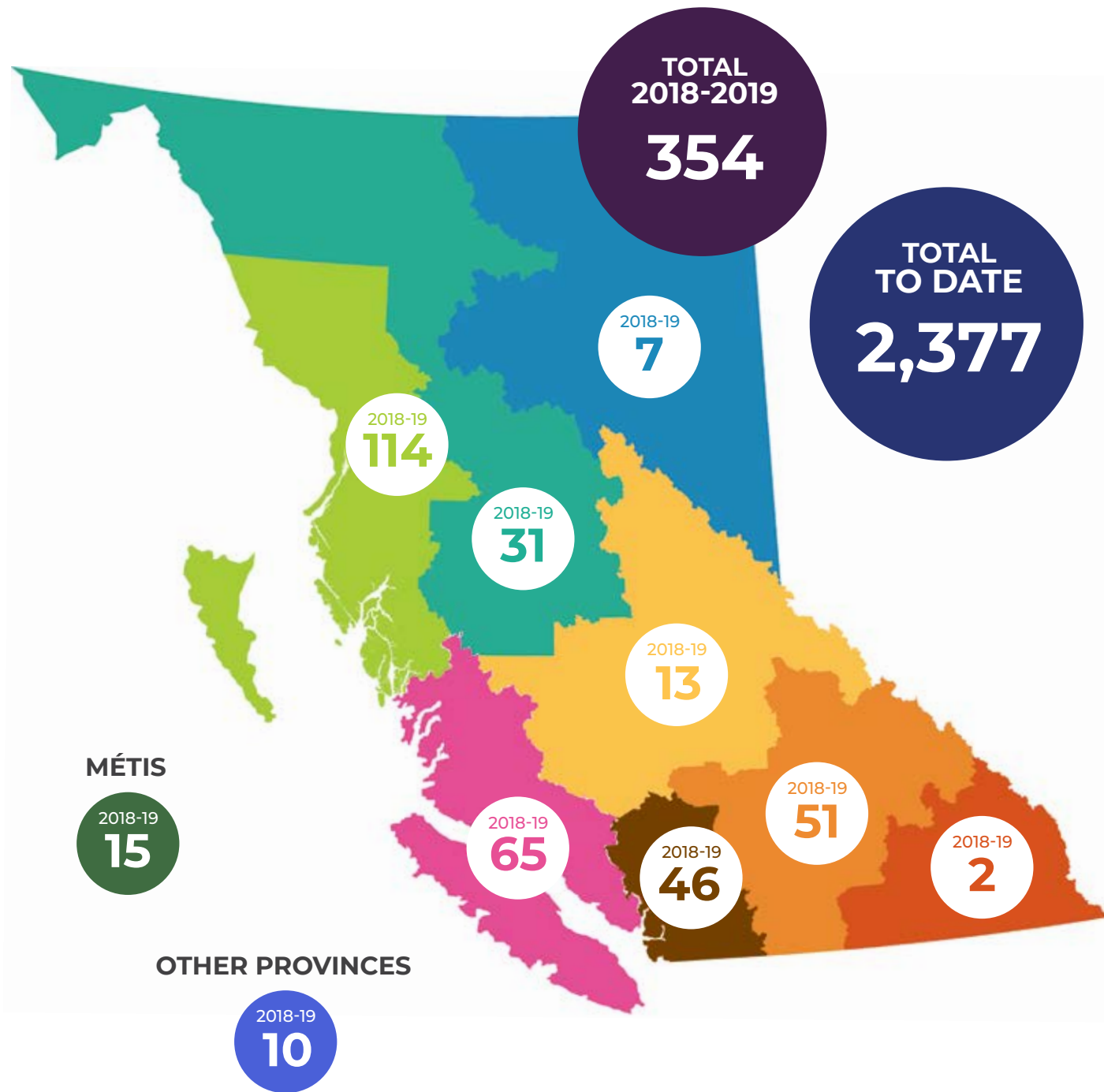
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FOUNDATION



2018-2019

The map below shows the student region distribution of NRT Foundation Scholarship and Bursary awards for 2018-2019.

WHERE THE FUNDING GOES



PARTNERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Thanks to the contributions from our generous Partners, we were able to support over 300 Indigenous students with Scholarships and Bursaries in 2018-19. Indigenous students face financial barriers while attending post-secondary school. The NRT Foundation's Scholarship and Bursary program eases financial struggles so students can focus on their studies and excel in their post-secondary education. By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, the NRT Foundation and Partners are building the capacity of Indigenous students, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and creating the skilled workforce that will enable BC to meet its future economic and social development needs.

Together, we are building a brighter future for all British Columbians.

If you would like to support the growing number of exceptional Indigenous candidates from across BC through the NRT Foundation Scholarship & Bursary program, please contact:

Rochelle Saddleman

Partnerships & Marketing Manager
NRT Foundation
(604) 925-3338 ext. 107
rsaddleman@nrtf.ca

OUR PARTNERS FOR 2018-2019



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

Early Years, Indigenous Early Years and Inclusion

The Early Years, Indigenous Early Years and Inclusion office 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 Physiotherapists, Applied Behavioural Analysts), Child and Youth Care, Human Service Development, Educational Psychology, and Community, Child and Family Support.

Indigenous Early Years Award recipients bios begin on page 38.

THE 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. The first of its kind in Canada, FNHA works as a health and wellness partner with BC First Nations to support self-determination and decision-making to improve health outcomes.

One of FNHA's directives is to develop human and economic capacity; our vision is for healthy, self-determining and vibrant children, families and communities. FNHA has partnered with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage First Nations people to explore exciting career opportunities in the health field.

Since 2013, FNHA has invested in 340 health care scholarships for First Nations students. As First Nations and Aboriginal people it is in us to care. Healers have always held central roles in our families and our Nations. We encourage those just starting out on their educational journey and those thinking about a career change to consider a health career.

There are a multitude of career opportunities in health, and many programs can be completed in under a year. Working in health care 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 Nation students, FNHA aims to train those with a passion for working in First Nations communities in BC, 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.

Reach out to us for practicum placements, student internships and further career opportunities:
Careers@fnha.ca



www.fnha.ca/about/work-with-us

FNHA recipient bios begin on page 20.



**NEW
RELATIONSHIP
TRUST**

INVESTING IN FIRST NATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

New Relationship Trust

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, Youth & Elders, and Economic Development.

NRT recipient bios begin on page 62.



Scotiabank

Scotiabank is dedicated to offering specialized financial services to Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. We have been working with Aboriginal communities for over 40 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 Level for Progressive Aboriginal Relations. We are also dedicated to the advancement and education of Aboriginal youth and adults. We are very happy to be part of your community and proud to demonstrate our commitment to you through progressive sponsorships, training and educational initiatives.

Scotiabank recipient bios begin on page 96.



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. The CC&L Foundation has provided an annual bursary to the New Relationship Trust Foundation since 2016.

CC&L recipient bios begin on page 95.



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. Drillwell Enterprises has provided an annual bursary to the New Relationship Trust Foundation since 2016.

Drillwell recipient bios begin on page 95.



Peace Hills Trust

Peace Hills Trust (PHT) 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.

PHT recipient bios begin on page 95.



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.

Canfor recipient bios begin on page 95.



Dilawri

In 2018, Dilawri Group of Companies (Dilawri) formed a 3-year partnership with the New Relationship Trust Foundation. As part of the partnership agreement, Dilawri has committed to the Premier Golf Sponsorship at the NRT Foundation's annual charity golf tournament. In result of their sponsorship commitment, Dilawri has established a yearly undergraduate scholarship that is open to all BC First Nations students.

In addition, Dilawri has also established an exclusive vehicle purchase program offered on any vehicles from their BC dealerships. Dilawri's partnership with the NRT Foundation is in support of BC's First Nations' education and community, and from each vehicle sold through the purchase program, they will provide \$100 to the NRT Foundation's Scholarship & Bursary program. Dilawri's exclusive vehicle purchasing program is open to all NRT members including employees, students and graduates. NRT members can purchase or lease an in-stock new vehicle of their choice from any of the Dilawri Group of Companies' owned dealerships in BC.

Dilawri is Canada's largest automotive group with 72 franchised dealerships representing 30 automotive brands throughout Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. Privately owned and operated by the Dilawri family since 1985, the company continues to expand its footprint in Canada, building on its history of excellence in the automotive industry. With more than 4,000 employees, Dilawri is proud to offer exceptional products and customer service in every dealership.

Dilawri recipient bios on page 93.



Allison Pootlass
NUXALK NATION

Vancouver Community College
Practical Nursing

My name is Allison Pootlass and I am from the Nuxalk territory in Bella Cooola BC. I recently graduated from the Practical Nursing program in Vancouver. Since graduating, I have moved back home and started working full-time in the local hospital as an LPN. I have always wanted to work in the medical field and definitely plan on furthering my career in the future!



Alyssa Samuels
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Assistant

My name is Alyssa Samuels, I am from the Haida Nation. For 15+ years I worked in the Customer Service Industry as an Administrative Assistant. For four years I was one of the participants of the Old Masset Repatriation Committee – we arranged to bring home our Ancestors from different museums located in the United States and Europe. I was very honoured to be part of the process and so filled with pride, the memories from this experience will forever be in my heart. This is why I decided to pursue the Health Care Assistant Program at Vancouver Community College.



Alyssa Schneider
BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

Rhodes Wellness College
Professional Counsellor

I have been fascinated by the psychology of the human brain since High School. My desire is to take that constantly growing passion and apply it to help others, especially Youth, who have been through trauma in their lives. My goal at Rhodes Wellness College is to fully apply myself in obtaining the skills needed to become a Counselor. My program has a unique experiential learning model which means 'learning by doing'. Through this, I will strive to reach my own optimal mental well-being in order to provide the best care for my future clients.



Catherine Puetter

WILLIAMS LAKE BAND

Okanagan College

Health Care Assistant

I'm a 55 year old single mother of two who has worked nowhere jobs at minimum wage my entire life. I decided it was time to make a positive change and make a difference in my life and my family's lives. I choose the Health Care Assistant course because I really care about others and would love to have the opportunity to provide care to the sick, vulnerable, and Elderly. It would be such a positive and rewarding career to bring kindness and a smile to others in need. Thank you NRT Foundation for this opportunity to follow my dreams.



Colin Smith

MAMALIKULLA FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

I was born and raised in a small town on the northern end of Vancouver Island. I grew up where drug use and parties were a 'Norm'. As a result, I started abusing drugs at a very early age. On May 9th, 2018 I had finally had enough and made my way to Surrey to go to treatment. While in treatment I realized that I was really good at helping people and that is what made me feel a sense of 'wholeness'. I am going to be the best me not only for me, but for my community!



Chris Eli Paul

HAISLA NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

My traditional name is Uni'com'ala & it translates to 'Whistle of the Wind'. My given name is Christopher Eli. I am a two-spirit man from the Haisla and Kitlope Nation. I belong to the House of Gps'glox. I chose the Chemical Addictions program because I am an addict in recovery and I want to give back to the community from which I came; the Haisla community and where my active addiction wandered, the Downtown Eastside. I am determined to bring my knowledge and kindness to the brothers and sisters that are living in active addiction. I am on my way.



Darlynda Jack

ULKATCHO FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

My name is Darlynda, I am the mother of four wonderful children who have encouraged me to gain my education. I managed to complete two and a half years of school while being a mother, pregnant, a wife, and a student. I had major doubts about my abilities before starting, but I surprised myself by maintaining an A+ average. Life has improved significantly since I've begun my educational journey and I would highly recommend Indigenous based programs, such as NVIT & Native Education College, for any Indigenous students that are looking to return to school. These colleges are amazing and do amazing work!



Davena Isaac

NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

Native Education College
Pathways to Health Careers

My name is Davena Isaac, I am from the Carrier Nation and part of the Frog Clan. I have worked in the Spa Industry for the past ten years and recently decided to go back to school to get a better education. I am very passionate towards the Health Care Industry. I'm currently in the Pathways to Health Careers program at Native Education Center and will be moving to VCC to finish my prerequisites in order to apply for a Bachelor of Nursing. My overall goal is to become a Registered Nurse in the DTES and work specifically with high risk mental patients. Thank you.



Erica Clark

OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

Vancouver College of Counsellor Training
Diploma of Professional Counselling

With the support of my home community and NRTF I have completed a BA in Criminology and will now be able to continue working towards completing a Masters in Counselling. The program at VCCT is the first step towards continuing my career goal of becoming a Registered Counsellor who specializes in Aboriginal focused counselling. My ultimate career goal is to work with Aboriginal people of all Nations and provide counselling that includes our Aboriginal heritage and traditions in order to assist others and myself.



Garry Turner
PACHEEDAHT FIRST NATION

Vancouver Community College
Practical Nursing

I come from a family of five siblings and am the second oldest. My goal is to work in a hospital setting, either in the city of Vancouver or possibly in a community, where people can truly receive the care they need. I intend on becoming an RN, after working as an LPN for a few years to get the experience I need. The reason I'm going into a health care field is not only for a better career, but I also want to show my siblings that there are options out there as long as you're passionate enough for it.



Hika Pete
HAGWILGET VILLAGE COUNCIL

Native Education College
Family & Community Counselling

I've always been passionate about helping others and I'm pleased to be able to start my education in Social Sciences. I've received a lot of support from various helpers while growing up and throughout my adulthood and it's my goal to one day be able to work with people that may be in need; so I can give back what was so freely given to me. One day I hope to pursue a career in Social Work, Mental Health and Addictions.



Jacqueline Ricketts
SQUAMISH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

Jacqueline Ricketts is from the Squamish Nation and she has two sons and one grandson. She attends Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) full-time in the Chemical Addictions Worker Program (CHAD). Jacqueline's educational journey with NVIT will lead her to obtain a M. Ed in Indigenous Educational Administration and Leadership and teach in the future. Her educational journey is dedicated to her late mother Johanna Mission-Paull who recently passed. "I am where I am today, because I had a mother who believed in me, she gives me the strength, the courage, and the power to live my dream for her!"



Jamie Dixel
NOOAITCH INDIAN BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

It took me 18 years to go back to school as I felt I had no place in Post-Secondary schools. I grew up with very little idea of how furthering my education past high school could benefit my family and I, and now I'm going into my fourth year of Post-Secondary education. I have a diploma in Family and Community Counselling and I'm working on an advanced diploma in Chemical Addiction. I plan to continue on to get a BA in Chemical Addiction and even go for a Masters in Leadership and Education. I'm grateful for the support I get from the communities.



Jenny Seward
SQUAMISH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

I am from the Squamish Nation and I have three children and four grandchildren. I have completed the Chemical Addictions Certificate and I am currently in the Chemical Addictions Diploma and Post-Diploma Program (year two & three). I am interested in this program so that I can help people in our community as well as off-reserve. I am almost eleven years clean of drugs and alcohol.



Jodi Harry
HAISLA NATION

Native Education College
Family & Community Counselling

One of my personal goals is to travel and see the world. My career goals are to achieve my Masters in Social Work and eventually open an Indigenous Youth safehouse.



I am where I am today, because I had a mother who believed in me, she gives me the strength, the courage, and the power to live my dream for her!

- JACQUELINE RICKETTS



It is my purpose to help those in need of care. It is my dream.

– KERRY CHIPESIA



John Spence
SQUAMISH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

I am from the Squamish Nation and I have a partner and five boys. I have been clean for over six years and am very passionate about helping in the addictions field. My goal is to achieve a Bachelors degree in Chemical Addictions.



Kayla Davis
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

Langara College
Kinesiology

I am a member of the Haida Nation from Haida Gwaii, which is a secluded island on the north coast. I'm in the first year of the Kinesiology program at Langara college in Vancouver, BC. My end goal is to become an Occupational Therapist and to return to Haida Gwaii in order to pursue my career. I want to contribute to the community and set a good example for my family.



Kerry Chipesia
PROPHET RIVER FIRST NATION

Okanagan College
Health Care Assistant

Hello, my name is Kerry Chipesia. My career goals are to become a Health Care Aide, because I enjoy helping Elders in need, and to build a health care facility in my community. My short-term goal is to complete this Health Care Program. In the future, my biggest goal is to become an LPN (licensed Practical Nurse). My personal goal is to achieve these career goals so I can bring the knowledge to my Band. Overall, caring is a passion of mine. It is my purpose to help those in need of care. It is my dream.



Julie Dyer
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Worker

My name is Julie Dyer. I am Nisga'a from the community of Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC. I come from the house of Ksim Xsaan and my tribe is Ganada (Raven). I am the proud mother of a beautiful four year old girl whom I adore so much, she is my inspiration. The reason I chose to go into the Health Care Assistant field was because I was raised by my grandparents, seeing them being cared for by others and being helped out alongside others inspired me to want to do the same.



Kelly Vincent
STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Health Care Assistant

UySkweyul, my name is Kelly-Rose Vincent, I come from the Stz'uminus First Nation. My parents are Bruce & Brenda Harris, Grandparents are Garry & Rita Harris. I am a wife to my husband Nathaniel Vincent & a mother of three; a sister to four brothers. I am pursuing a dream of becoming an LPN. The perfect opportunity came up with the HCA program and I made the decision of leaving the daycare I had been working at for eight years and am now working towards becoming an LPN. Now that I have completed my HCA program the next step is completing prerequisites for the LPN and completing my dream.



Khali Pelletier
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Camosun College
Arts and Science Studies

Khali Pelletier is enrolled in the first year of her degree program in Arts and Sciences. She plans on getting her diploma within two years at Camosun College in Victoria, BC. After she receives her diploma she plans on furthering her career in the health industry by enrolling in the College of New Caledonia's program for Medical Sonography. She plans on receiving this diploma within four to five years.



Louis Gagnon
WITSET FIRST NATION

College of New Caledonia
Kinesiology

My name is Louis Gagnon, I am currently in the Kinesiology program with the hopes of specializing in the health care field in some capacity. I aim to seek out and master the best material and apply it to those in need in the northern region of British Columbia, as I find a lack of services in this field. As someone who has grown up with congenital problems, which were no doubt exasperated by life-style habits that are so common in this era, I hope to find what I can to rectify those problems and help others in need.



Natasha Wilson
HEILTSUK NATION

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Assistant

I come from a small North Coast town known as Heiltsuk Nation (Bella Bella, BC). I come from a large family which includes many extended family/friends, and I'm a proud mother & grandmother. I've returned back to school at VCC, currently completing my HCA program. After this course I will find a job within the Health care system while upgrading a few courses to enroll into the HCA acute care program. The longer term goal is to complete the LPN or RN program.



Nicolette Moore
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

I am a 38 year old mother of 8 and one foster child who is on her way to a degree from NVIT. I come from addictions and inter-generational trauma along with a very chaotic background. I want my children to have a mother that they can look up to and be proud of, with education being considered of the most importance. I've found that education is unlocking doors to areas for my family that I never thought possible. I plan on continuing to my Masters and bringing my knowledge and skills to help our people who are suffering like I did.



Luella Doolan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Assistant

I am Nisga'a from the Wolf tribe. My long term goals are to go into Acute care or the Practical Nursing program. I've faced some challenges, but nothing that has kept me from achieving my goals. I plan to work as an HCA for a while and then go back to school and pursue my other goals in the health field.



Naomi Jules
TL'AZT'EN NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

My name is Naomi Jules and I was born in Prince George, BC and raised in Kamloops, BC on the Kamloops Indian Band reserve by my late father John Jules. I am currently a Homelessness Outreach Navigator at the Aboriginal Mother Centre Society. My educational goal is to graduate with the Chemical Addictions Worker Advanced Diploma from NVIT. Once I complete my diploma, I plan on stepping into an Addictions Worker role in an Aboriginal focused organization. I am very appreciative of every opportunity I have been given to attend college to further my education. Thank you NRTF.



Nicole Campbell
KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL

Northwest Community College
Health Care Assistant

I am currently taking the Health Care Assistant program at Coast Mountain College and was fortunate enough to have this opportunity through the Dze L K'ant Friendship center. As a returning mature student it is definitely hard getting back into school, but I'm looking forward to seeing what doors this program will open. There have been a lot of people who inspired me to get back into school; my mother & grandparents are great role models and inspiration. I am very thankful for the financial assistance of NRTF & FNHA because it allows me to focus on my education.



Kelli Brown

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

**Douglas College
Sport Science**

Hello, my name is Kelli Brown, Nisga'a name; Ksim Halipis (Lady Dragon Fly) from Laxgalts'ap. I am an 18 year old first year student at Douglas College.

I am studying Sport Science and specializing in Kinesiology. My goal is to become a Motivational Sport & Fitness Trainer. I have a dream to open my own practice in Kinesiology.

My goal is to work with Aboriginal people, focusing on our youth, and teach them the way our bodies work and how we can keep them healthy and strong for any type of sports. By studying Sport Science I am learning new innovative ways to promote healthier lifestyles.



Melanie Rivers, Tiyaltelwetlte

SQUAMISH NATION

**Vancouver School of Healing Arts
Expressive Arts Therapy**

Melanie (Tiyaltelwet) is from the Squamish Nation and has worked for twenty years delivering culturally appropriate Indigenous health education and policy. She holds a Masters in Public Health from UBC and a Provincial Instructors Diploma from VCC. Melanie was Program Lead and Educator at the BC Centre for Disease Control's Chee Mamuk program, Education Coordinator at the UBC Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health, and Senior Advisor at the First Nations Health Authority.

Melanie is a mixed media artist and teacher and is training to become an Expressive Arts Therapist with the aim to work with First Nations who have experienced trauma.



Norma Natrall
SQUAMISH NATION

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Assistant

At some point in my life I want to become a Nurse. Being a single Mother I want to focus on finishing my program, then focus on being an HCA until my son is in school full-time. At that time I will then further my education in the Health care industry.



Sage Thomas
TKEMLUPS TE SECWEPENC

Thompson Rivers University
Associate of Arts

Sage Thomas is from Tk'emlups te Secwépenc. Sage has been a practicing Indigenous Birth Worker (Doula), Breastfeeding Educator/ Counsellor for the last seven years and is an aspiring Midwife. Sage is also a professionally trained visual Artist, and is currently a full time student at Thompson Rivers University furthering her education in Health Sciences, Fine Arts and First Nations Studies. Sage has a passion for the arts, women's birth rights, revitalizing traditional birthing practices and continuously gaining more knowledge of her Secwépenc culture and language.



Shianna Davis
SKEETCHESTN INDIAN BAND

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Medical Radiography

I have striven to be apart of Canada's intricate healthcare system throughout my years of education. I am privileged to have been accepted into BCIT to pursue my passion of becoming a Medical Radiographer and continuing my education. This is the first step into Medical Imaging as I work towards my ultimate goal of a Degree in Medical Imaging. I aspire to be a leader in my community with the knowledge I have learned and encourage others to follow their passions.



Sabrina Jones
SQUAMISH NATION

Vancouver Community College
Health Care Assistant

Sabrina Jones is a graduated Health Care Assistant and will be moving forward in the health care field by taking the Registered Nurse program. She aspires to work with children and psychiatric patients in the near future. She absolutely adores being an auntie to all of her nieces and nephews. Her family and close friends are absolutely the most important in her life, and of course Peyton the cat.



Shannon Smith
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Camosun College
Practical Nursing

My name is Shannon from the Lax Kw'alaams and Gitxsan Nation. I am a practicing HCA who is now in the Practical Nursing program. My goal is to help people live a fulfilling and quality life and obtain a career that is both fulfilling, mentally and emotionally, as well as provide for my future family. Practical nursing is not the end of my journey, I want learn as much as possible so I will have more to give back and help whichever community my journey takes me in the future.



Shiann Gilpin
ALEXIS CREEK INDIAN BAND

Native Education College
Health Care Assistant

I'm a 21 year old Mother of two. I'm beyond thankful to FNHA for giving me this opportunity. I'm very grateful. My goal this year is to help as much Elders as I possibly can and in the near future I will be going to school to become a Registered Nurse. I love helping others in any way I can.



I aspire to be a leader in my community with the knowledge I have learned and encourage others to follow their passions.

– SHIANNA DAVIS



Stephanie Holmes
TL'AZT'EN NATION

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Chemical Addictions Worker**

I am a strong resilient Dakelh woman who wants to help her people heal from intergenerational trauma caused by the residential school system. I have overcome my own addictions and trauma and want to help others do the same by obtaining a Masters in Counseling.



Shelley Sparrow
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

**Native Education College
 Family & Community Counselling**

I am currently pursuing a career in mental health. After I complete my counselling certification I plan on becoming a Nurse with my focus being Psychiatric and Mental health support. I joined this program so that when I go into Nursing I will have some basic knowledge and experience behind me as I continue towards my goal.



Stephanie Mullin
**UPPER SIMILKAMEEN
 INDIAN BAND**

**Douglas College
 Hearing Instrument Practitioner**

My name is Stephanie Mullin of the Upper Similkameen Indian Band. I am starting my second year of the Hearing Instrument Practitioner diploma at Douglas College. I am so grateful to be receiving this bursary for the second time thanks to the FNHA and NRTF! When I graduate I will be able to perform hearing tests then prescribe and fit hearing aids as needed. Hearing loss often leads to isolation and frustration and I am excited to say that my education will allow me to improve the quality of life for others, especially for the Elderly.



Susannah Manuel
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Access to Practical Nursing**

I'm so honored to be accepted into the Practical Nursing program at NVIT. I've been wanting to become a Nurse for a very long time now and when I graduate I'd like a job in the community. My goal is to bring health awareness to our people; teaching from the young to the elderly. There is so much knowledge I will have gained and I want to share that through mind, body and spirit, as there is a lot more to us than just the physical aspects. All my relations, a?ket.



Talesha Erickson
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

**Native Education College
 Health Care Assistant**

My name is Talesha Erickson, I am from the Nisga'a Nation. My career goal is to become a Registered Nurse within the next five years. I am currently in the Health Care Assistant program, this is a stepping stone on my path to becoming a nurse. My goals are to have my own home and to travel to at least 3 different countries within the next two years as I have never been outside of British Columbia.



Tony Pierre
LIL'WAT NATION

**Vancouver Community College
 Health Care Assistant**

My name is Tony Pierre and I'm a proud member of the Lil'wat Nation in Mount Currie BC. Before going back to school to be a HCA, I had worked for about 10 years in the remediation industry. It was great work but once I had my little girl, I knew I needed to make a career change for the better. The NRTF Bursary I was awarded was amazing and really helped me in completing my certification. In the future I'm aiming to come back and go into Psych Nursing... so watch out, hopefully you'll see me again.



Valerie Doolan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Rhodes Wellness College
Professional Counsellor

I was born and raised in a coastal Nisga'a community called Gingolx with a population of approximately 400. I advanced to my second year of Professional Counselling at a private college that provides experiential learning. My drive comes from wanting to understand someone very close to me without judgment. My plan is to work with Aboriginal people, I have a toolbox full of very effective tools. I realize the impact of colonization and Residential Schools, the Intergenerational trauma that we continue to pass down. My personal experience and knowledge of the social issues gives me an advantage towards understanding and helping others.



Victoria Robinson
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Native Education College
Pathways to Health Careers

My name is Victoria Robinson. I am from the Nisga'a Nation. I've always envisioned myself working in the health field and pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. In 2011, I completed my Health Care Assistant Certificate Training at N.E.C and have had the privilege to work in my home community as a Home Support Worker for almost 5 years. By having the opportunity to work with other health professionals, my desire to achieve my goals is more driven with ambition. I have currently returned to N.E.C to work toward my prerequisites and plan to apply to BCIT for my university transfer prerequisites.



Vincent Abbott
LYTTON FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Chemical Addictions Worker

My name is Vincent Abbott, I am from Lytton First Nation. I work as a Drug & Alcohol counselor for NlaK'pauX. I am married with four girls. We have five grandchildren. I am in the Chemical Addictions program because I was inspired by my counselor when I entered recovery. My goal is to complete the Chemical Addictions Bachelor Degree and continue to work for my nation.



Aidan Harris
WITSET FIRST NATION

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

My name is Aidan Harris, I am from the Wet'suwet'en and Gitksan Nations. I grew up in the Hazelton area, in the small village of Hagwilget. I am currently in my first year at the University of Northern British Columbia, in the biochemistry program. I have always loved working with and helping children, and I have volunteered many times throughout my high school education. My long term career goal is to become a paediatrician, I want to give children the proper health care they need to ensure they get the best start in life.



Aimee Tresierra
**WHISPERING PINES/
 CLINTON INDIAN BAND**

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My name is Aimee Tresierra, I am currently in the Nursing program at UBC-Okanagan in my second year of studies. I chose the Nursing program because I am very passionate about the health and wellness of people. My career goals are to become a Registered Nurse and help improve the health care industry by providing the best care possible, as well as provide assistance to my First Nations community where health care isn't as easily accessed.



Alissa Adams
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

I come from the Nisga'a community of Gingolx.



Brooke Mounsey
SIMPCW FIRST NATION

Stanford University
Bachelor of Arts in Human Biology

I'm a rising fourth year student in Human Biology at Stanford University. I've held positions at the First Nations Health Authority, UBC's Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre, and Johns Hopkins Medicine. While at UBC, I engaged community members and co-wrote a book chapter on Two-Spirit youth wellness titled "Where Am I Going to Go?: Intersectional approaches to ending LGBTQ2S youth homelessness in Canada & the U.S." At Johns Hopkins, I contributed to research on nerve regeneration in their Dept. of Neurology. In the future, I plan to attend medical school and return to work in BC.



Brittany Mullin
**UPPER SIMILKAMEEN
 INDIAN BAND**

University of British Columbia
Bachelor's Degree in Dental Science

I am a Registered Dental Hygienist located on Vancouver Island in beautiful British Columbia. After graduating from Vancouver Island University in 2014 with my Diploma in Dental Hygiene, followed by 4 years of practice in a private clinical setting, I decided to return to school to complete my Bachelor of Dental Science degree. This is deepening my knowledge of my field and enabling me to better serve my community. Once I graduate, I would like to create a community outreach program to improve access to dental care for our rural Indigenous populations.



Chelsea Sylvester
WE WAI KAI FIRST NATION

Vancouver Community College
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

New Relationship Trust Foundation has enabled me to fulfill my dreams of becoming a Registered Nurse and one day giving back to my community; as they have so generously done for me. When I am done the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program I hope to work in a local health centre or possibly in remote/isolated areas serving First Nations communities. Without the help from New Relationship Trust Foundation throughout my schooling, I wouldn't have been able to get as far as I have gotten today. Thank you NRTF!



I want to give children the proper health care they need to ensure they get the best start in life.

- AIDAN HARRIS



Caterina Marra
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Global Resource Systems

My name is Caterina Marra and I am a proud member of the Musqueam First Nation. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science focusing on Human health and Nutrition. I hope to conduct further studies after completing my undergraduate degree. I hope to use the skills and knowledge acquired to improve the health of First Nations across Canada. I have received amazing support throughout the last three years from my friends, family, the Musqueam community, and NRTF. I would not have had the same experience without the generosity, guidance, and support.



Erica Joe
LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

With the continued support from the New Relationship Trust Foundation and Lower Nicola Indian Band, I am commencing on my third year of the Nursing degree program. It was not long after my high school graduation in 2006 that I realized I wanted to pursue a career in the Health field. It's been a great journey pursuing my post-secondary education and I am excited that I am halfway through my nursing studies. I'm very appreciative of the Foundation's assistance and support throughout my studies.



Geoffrey Point
SKOWKALE FIRST NATION

University of the Fraser Valley
Bachelor of Science

My name is Geoffrey Point and I am in my second year at the University of the Fraser Valley. My studies are exploring the wonderful world of science. I have achieved high grades while taking full-time courses, made time for cultural practices, aided my family, and maintained personal upkeep such as fitness. All while taking on full-time school. I am working towards a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Biology and want to use what I learn from class to pass my MCAT, enter med school, and become a Doctor. All of this to one day help my people with medicine.



Gezina Baehr
SONGHEES FIRST NATION

University of Alberta
Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy

My name is Gezina Baehr and I am a third year Pharmacy student at the University of Alberta. I am from Songhees First Nation and am aiming to become the first Doctor of Pharmacy from my Nation. My Grandpa has an honorary Doctorate of Education and he inspires me everyday to obtain my own Doctorate title. In the future, I hope to open up a pharmacy on my reserve and sponsor community members to get education in order to staff the pharmacy. I want to help improve the health of Indigenous peoples in Canada.



Hannah Olinek
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Kinesiology

I am very excited to start off my first year at the University of British Columbia as a Kinesiology student! I love to help people so I chose this field to continue being a role model to anyone in order to show them how to live a healthy active lifestyle. One day, I wish to enroll into Physiotherapy to help those hurt in unfortunate accidents or sports related injuries. My career goals are to become a Personal trainer and a Sports coach, and one day become a Physiotherapist.



Jackson Stirling
WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

My name is Jackson Stirling, I have been studying Psychology at the University of Victoria. I have always wanted to understand how people think and feel, my schooling has given me an amazing opportunity to learn those things. After my undergrad I will apply to a Masters in Counselling Psychology program, my goal is to eventually work as a Counsellor. I see this as my chance to put everything I have learned to practice in order to really help people, nothing would make me happier. I could have never made it this far without NRTF, thank you.



Jacqueline Mattice
WILLIAMS LAKE BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 I am a proud member of the Williams Lake Band. My passion has always been working with Elders in the First Nations communities. My overall goal is to work as a Gerontological Nurse so that I can work with Elders and advocate for their health care needs. I am looking forward to my future in the health-care profession. Thank you NRTF and the First Nations Health Authority for your generous scholarship and for your dedication to First Nations education.



Jeremy Smith
YUNESIT'IN GOVERNMENT

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Human Kinetics
 My personal goals are to continue improving my school grades, financial budget, and health. First priority for me right now is my health because in the past I have had mental health problems, sleep problems, and motivational problems. Good health creates a foundation for me to improve at other things, such as school and finances. My career goal is to complete a Masters degree after my Bachelors. Possible Masters programs include Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy. I will be more certain of what I want to do by my fourth year.



Kleanza Cathers
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Barton College
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 I am studying Nursing at Barton College in Wilson, North Carolina. I just started my second year here and I love it so far. I am a student athlete who swims competitively on the Barton swim team and we won our conference championship meet last year. In the future, I want to work as a Registered Nurse somewhere in BC as well as to continue swimming as a masters swimmer and be involved with a team, in one way or another.



I have always wanted to be a Doctor and this is my first step. I am looking forward to my first year and living on campus. I am very grateful for the scholarship as it will allow me to focus on my studies.

- KAYLENE GOERTZEN



Jaimie Holt
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 My name is Jaimie Holt and I am from Old Massett Village Council. I am studying Nursing at the University of Victoria.



Kathryn Ignace
SKEETCHESTN INDIAN BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Science
 Weyt-k, my name is Kathryn Ignace. I grew up in the Skeetchestn community where I was taught the Secwepemc language and culture through my parents, Elders, and many siblings. Here, I learned the importance of preserving and passing on the language and culture to future generations. I have swum competitively throughout my life. Due to my love of sports, I have decided that I would like to become a Physiotherapist and help those both in and outside my community with illness, injury, and disability.



Kaylene Goertzen
WE WAI KAI FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Kinesiology
 I am excited to be studying Kinesiology at UBC. I am finally getting to study the human body and things related to it, which I love. I have always wanted to be a Doctor and this is my first step. I am looking forward to my first year and living on campus. I am very grateful for the scholarship as it will allow me to focus on my studies.



Kristina Bray
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

University of Saskatchewan
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My name is Kristina Bray and I am a second year Nursing student. I hope to one day work in the neonatal unit, hopefully working closely with Indigenous families and their infants. It is important to me to work with Indigenous people as we are an under-represented group with diverse and important health needs that are still not being adequately met. I want to leave a positive influence on as many clients as I can, this is the most important part of nursing to me.



Kwasen Reid
QUALICUM FIRST NATION

Erasmus University Rotterdam
International Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

My name is Kwasen Reid and I am a proud member of the Qualicum First Nation. My family, small town, and peers have taught me valuable lessons in respecting my land and body, both spiritually and physically. I have a passion for mental health as well as a strong social conscience that makes me strive for a greater knowledge of the world around me. I feel extremely blessed to have such strong, supportive, Aboriginal parents and I owe all the success I've had in my life to them.



Lyric Atchison
SQUAMISH NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Kinesiology

I am a member of the Squamish Nation. In my first year at the Faculty of Kinesiology at UBC I was the recipient of the 2017-2018 UBC Faculty of Kinesiology Aboriginal Entrance Award. I was a starting athlete on the UBC Women's Thunderbird Rugby team and went on to compete on the women's U20 Team BC at Canadian Nationals in Saskatoon, SK. I will bring my passion for athletics and academia as a returning second year student to UBC this fall. After completing my Bachelor of Kinesiology I plan to write the MCAT and apply to medical school.



Mary Mearns
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Science in Biological Physics

I am a member of the Musqueam Band located in Vancouver, BC and I am attending my second year at Simon Fraser University. My intention is to complete a Bachelor of Science with a major in Biological Physics. My passion for sciences has been supported by the NRTF Scholarship Fund and I hope to find employment in the future which will help my people. With this support, I am on my way to career possibilities of Research Scientist, Toxicologist, or a DNA analyst. I am proud to attend university and would like to share my passion for learning with others.



Nicole Dawydiuk
SPUZZUM FIRST NATION

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

My name is Nicole Dawydiuk. I am from Spuzzum First Nation and am currently in my last semester at Simon Fraser University studying a Bachelor of Science with a major in Health Sciences. I've chosen to focus my degree specifically on Indigenous health, with hopes to obtain a career where I can create positive changes in Indigenous health, health policy, and to decrease the health disparities of which Indigenous communities are facing.



Michael Wesley
GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition, and Health - Dietetics

I am Gitxsan, I was born and raised on Gitxsan territory. I am also married with two amazing children who motivate me to accomplish my goals. Currently, I am enrolled in the Dietetics Major Program at UBC. My goal is to finish my Dietetics degree and become a Registered Dietitian. As a Dietitian I would like to work with my home community and make positive changes in health.



Tia Felix

SPLATSIN FIRST NATION

**University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Midwifery**

I am Splantsin te Secwépemc. My name is Tia Felix and I am the eldest of seven children. I was raised by a strong mother and supportive community. They keep me grounded in my roots and practices. They have invested in me and I am excited to show my appreciation by giving back. Traditionally, Midwives were the knowledge keepers of well-women care, including birth. Our women are powerful!

I hope to integrate our ways to the ever-changing scope to improve care. I hope one day to return to Secwepemcúíecw and care for our families.

Yerí7 skukwstsétsemc New Relationship Trust Foundation!



Quinn Van de Mosselaer

WHISPERING PINES/CLINTON INDIAN BAND

**University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science**

I am a French bilingual second-year student living in Kelowna taking a Bachelor of Science. My personal goals are to help my First Nations community by demonstrating that through hard work and commitment we can be proud of our heritage. I am showing the younger generations that First Nations people can achieve great success and have a great life experience.

My path is to continue studies in science to achieve a career in medicine. I would be grateful for the ability to save someone's life and help remote communities' well-being.



Shyanna Sawyer
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Camosun College

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My name is Shyanna Sawyer, I come from the Naa 'yuuwans x?aaydaga eagle clan. My dad's name is Edward Sawyer and my mom is Holly Beyer. I was raised on a small island on the north west coast of BC called Xaayda Gwaay (Haida Gwaii). My career goals are to graduate in 2021 and become a Registered Nurse. I then plan to work at the newly built hospital in Queen Charlotte City for a few years. After that I'd like to become a Nurse Practitioner and work on Haida Gwaii.



Stacy Mitchell
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My name is Stacy Mitchell, I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band in Vernon, BC. I am entering the third and final year of the Nursing program at BCIT! I am currently focusing on Emergency as my specialty. When I graduate in May as a Registered Nurse, I plan on moving to Northern BC or the Yukon to work. My goal is to promote health and wellness that incorporates traditional healing methods to ensure cultural safety. I am extremely grateful for receiving this scholarship and look forward to helping many people in my career!



Tatyana Daniels
GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition, and Health - Dietetics

I am from the Gitxsan and Wet'suwet'en First Nations and grew up in the community of Gitanmaax. After completing three years of science education, I realized that my passion for health, science, and nutrition could be combined with a degree in Dietetics. Experiences of growing up with periods of food insecurity on the reserve, combined with my love for traditional food, has inspired me to incorporate traditional foods in healthy inexpensive meal plans for the modern-day diet. I hope to work in First Nations communities in BC to provide culturally-relevant nutrition education.



Shandel Kaiser
PROPHET RIVER FIRST NATION

Capella University
Master of Science in Psychology

My name is Shandel Kaiser and I am member of the Prophet River First Nation located on the world famous Alaska Highway in Northern, BC. I have a Bachelors degree in Psychology and Criminology from Simon Fraser University and I am currently in the second year of my Masters program in Psychology. I have a strong passion for mental health and promoting mental wellness among First Nation communities in a culturally appropriate manner. I hope to use my education and skills to provide therapeutic services to all First Nation peoples among others.



I am passionate about finding sustainable solutions for our fish, and the rivers, lakes, and oceans that support them. My research blends ecological and social approaches to explore ways of improving how we treat and manage our vital, but increasingly threatened, Pacific salmon populations.

- ANDREA REID



Andrea Reid
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

University of British Columbia & Carleton University
Doctor of Philosophy in Biology

I am a Nisga'a citizen (Village of Gingolx) and a PhD Candidate in Biology at the University of British Columbia and Carleton University. I completed both my BSc in Environment and my MSc in Biology at McGill University. I am passionate about finding sustainable solutions for our fish, and the rivers, lakes, and oceans that support them. My research blends ecological and social approaches to explore ways of improving how we treat and manage our vital, but increasingly threatened, Pacific salmon populations. I am also dedicated to youth outreach, and regularly lead salmon science camps and talks in my community.



Alexander Thomas
SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION

McMaster University
Doctor of Medicine

My name is Alexander Thomas and I am a proud member of Snuneymuxw First Nation in Nanaimo, British Columbia. I am currently enrolled in my second year of medical school at McMaster University. I am most interested in Indigenous health, sports medicine, and mental wellness. While pursuing a career in medicine, I would like to help address the critical shortage of Indigenous physicians in Canada, serve as a role model in my community, and improve the overall health of Indigenous peoples.



Deanna Kerrigan
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

The past three years have been an endless journey of textbooks and lectures, long days, and even longer nights. It has been an absolute privilege to work with the medical community of Prince George and I would not change a thing about my journey. I look forward to the next step of my adventure as I graduate and start residency in either Paediatrics or Family practice in 2019.



I have a strong passion for mental health and promoting mental wellness among First Nation communities in a culturally appropriate manner.

- SHANDEL KAISER



Joseph Ledo
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

McMaster University
Doctor of Medicine

Before starting medical school at McMaster University last year, Joseph completed his Bachelor of Science degree at the University of the Fraser Valley in British Columbia. Prior to his degree, he worked as a bank teller out of high school for 4 years, and as a long haul truck driver for 2 years before studying at UFV. He is a member of the Musqueam Indian Band and his foremost hobby is fishing in the Fraser River. Currently, Joseph is interested in studying the internal medicine subspecialty of Gastroenterology, with research applications towards improvement of First Nations gastrointestinal health issues.



Joshua Nash
TAHLTAN BAND

University of Calgary
Doctor of Medicine

Hello, I'm Joshua Nash and currently a second-year medical student at the University of Calgary. I'm the second oldest amongst my eleven siblings. My future aspirations are to work with my First Nations community and those in the North to increase accessibility and convenience to medical services. Like many Indigenous youth growing up, I didn't always have the most conducive learning environment and my educational journey has been by no means easy, I have always been inspired and reminded by our Elders to keep going and to stay focused on your goals.



Krista Stelkia
OSOYOOS INDIAN BAND

Simon Fraser University
Doctor of Philosophy in Health Sciences

My name is Krista Stelkia and I am of Syilx/Tlingit descent, member of the Osoyoos Indian Band from the interior of British Columbia. I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University, studying in the area of Indigenous health. My research will examine the complex and intersecting ways in which racism (interpersonal, systemic and structural) can influence chronic disease health outcomes and access to health care among First Nations in Canada. I feel very driven in conducting research that aims to address the issue of neglect and racism against Indigenous peoples in the healthcare system.



Lee Wilkerson
KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL

St. James School of Medicine
Doctor of Medicine

My name is Lee Wilkerson. My First Nation roots have inspired me to be strong and look to the past as I move into the future. Throughout my education I have been inspired by my great-grandparents who raised a large family and took care of many others with very limited resources. Their lives of service for others has inspired me to pursue an education that would improve the lives of many people. That is why I have chosen to pursue an education in the medical field. I love my family and am grateful for their support while I become a Medical Doctor.



Ryan Danroth
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

I grew up in the Comox Valley and got my Adult Graduation Diploma in 2011. I graduated with a BSc in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry in 2016. When I graduate with my MD in 2020 I hope to make a real and tangible difference giving back to marginalized and under-served populations.



Tarissa Alec
TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Doctor of Medicine

I am Carrier Sekani on my paternal side and Gitksan on my maternal side. I have a wonderful, supportive husband who is also from a Northern BC First Nation. Together, we have two little boys. I am currently completing my third year of the MD Undergraduate Program at UBC. After I graduate and complete residency, I plan on returning to Northern BC to provide care for rural and remote communities. My husband and I hope to provide culturally competent care to Indigenous communities as Indigenous doctors.



Natasha Wawrykow

SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy in Counselling Psychology

Uy' skweyul. My name is Natasha Wawrykow. My family comes from the Skuppah Band in Lytton, British Columbia. 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, Fraser Health- 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



Steve 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 graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of British Columbia - Okanagan before studying medicine at Queen's University, where I am currently starting my fourth year. 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.



Alicia Marchand

OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

College of the Rockies

Aboriginal Education Support Worker

Way' Xast ?k?k??ast Hello and good day, my name is Alicia Marchand and I am from the Okanagan Indian Band. I am in my second year of the Aboriginal Education Support Worker Program and have enjoyed every minute of it. I have a great support system that keeps me motivated. I want to help guide our youth through their educational goals to be the best they can be. I want to be a role model to my three sons and show them that it is never too late to further your education.



Angela Charlie

MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

University of the Fraser Valley
Social Services

Ey Swayel Sel Ya:altenot tel skixw, telitsel qwa Musqueam te Sts'ailes. In my language I said "Good day my traditional name is Sel Ya:altenot and I come from Musqueam and Sts'ailes". Kwem Kwem sqwel wel, which means "to be strong and proud of who I am and where I come from". Personally, I have achieved a Diploma in Social Services at UFV. Moving forward, I would like to continue my education and attain a Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Studies. I am truly blessed and fortunate as my culture and traditions have guided me through all of my endeavours.



Anna-Marie Horn

BIG RIVER FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

My educational goal is to stay focused on successfully completing the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program. It is important to me to continue my education within the health sciences field. My future goals would include further education. I plan on continuing my studies at University of British Columbia (UBC). I would like to concentrate on furthering my studies in the Indigenous Child Welfare area. In the near future I would like to study a Masters Degree program specializing in Indigenous Child Welfare. Currently, I look forward to studying while emphasizing my general studies on Indigenous matters. I love school.



Anaysa Stevens

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Northwest Community College
Social Service Worker

I chose the Social Service Worker program because I want to assist people in working towards change and help them realize that if you work hard you can accomplish great things. For example: You can live your dream of going to school to get an education so that you can get your dream job which is high paying because of your education background. I plan to get my certificate & diploma in SSW program and then transfer to university to complete a Bachelor of Social Work program. Then, I will work for a few years and go back to get my MSW.



Angela DeBruyn

SHÍSHÁLH NATION

University of the Fraser Valley

Early Childhood Education and Care

I am the mother of 4 beautiful children, I worked for supported childcare development as a Support Worker for over ten years. I decided that I wanted to further my education from the children that I was working with so I signed up to take Early Childhood Education, I completed this with honors and I have now moved into a role as a Supported Childcare Consultant. I look forward to taking my Infant Toddler/Special Needs diploma in the future. I am very thankful for the opportunity of this bursary.



Cara Courtoreille

COOK'S FERRY FIRST NATION

College of the Rockies

Early Childhood Education

I am a Christian First Nations woman and I belong to the Cook's Ferry Indian Band. All my life I was shown how valuable life is and how important children are. I believe that each individual spirit will help shape our world if we help shape theirs along the way. I value my career for so many reasons. I believe that Early Childhood Educators and Caregivers have one of the biggest impacts on little souls. We are their role models and their safe place. Thank you so much to the NRT Foundation as well as my Indian Band.



Carmen George

PENTICTON INDIAN BAND

Okanagan College
Associate of Arts

My personal and career goal is to get the schooling and training needed to be able to support my community. I want to be able to speak for those who cannot and to start the healing process for those who are hurting. My passion is to support all ages from children to Elders. I am currently in the Associate of Arts Degree program at the Okanagan college and my major is in Psychology and I will also be taking my intro classes for Social Work.



Chantelle Paul

TL'ETINQOX-T'IN GOVERNMENT

Thompson Rivers University
Early Childhood Education

My name is Chantelle Paul from the Williams Lake/Anahim reserve. Right after I graduated I knew I wanted to be in the ECE field. I am proud to say that I am almost done my course and ready to teach and learn about children's most important years of growing, learning, and exploring the early stages of life. My goal is to never stop learning about how to connect and teach young children.



Dakota David

SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

I would like to thank you for the bursary. I am very thankful for your help with the bursary I applied for and it will help me a lot in my education. I have worked so hard to get where I am. Being pregnant and having my baby while doing my AECE was really hard but I am still going through it, my success is coming one step at a time. Thank you very much.



Carrie Mitchell

KWANTLEN FIRST NATION

Northern Lights College
Early Childhood Education

Hi my name is Carrie, I am from Kwantlen First Nation. I work in our Nation's Headstart program. This is my eleventh year working in the program and I love working with children and families, being a role model and helping support the growth and learning within our community. I have a passion for safety and have other courses in this area. I would love to further my education in ECE and also in Health and Safety. Through my courses I have not only learned how to be a strong employee, but be a stronger me.



Charly Defouw

MÉTIS

Selkirk College
Associate of Arts

My name is Charly Defouw and I am 18 years old. My Dad is Frank, my Mom is Christine, and I have a younger brother Corey. I live in Nelson, BC in the West Kootenays. I am in my first year of College with the goal of becoming an Elementary Teacher. Every week, I volunteer my time between two local elementary schools. This helps me gain experience and helps me give back to the local community.



Danya Brown

HEILTSUK NATION

Pacific Rim Institute
Early Childhood Educator

My name is Danya Brown, I am the mother of two beautiful children. I work full-time at our Nation's Daycare as the ECE for ages two to four and I am a full-time student. My personal goal is to travel with my children and teach them about cultures beyond our own. My career goal is to be able to manage and provide my own childcare centre for our community out of my own home. I truly love my choice of work as an Educator and I believe children teach us more about life than what we teach them.



I love working with children and families, being a role model and helping support the growth and learning within our community.

– CARRIE MITCHELL



My goal is to take what I learn and move back up north to bring more resources to communities who need me.

– EDEN OBESTER



Darrian Pollard **SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**

Northern Lights College
Early Childhood Education

I would like to become an Early Childhood Educator and to be able to have an in home daycare once I'm finished. I would like to be able to practice my First Nations knowledge within my daycare.



Deanna Harris **HEILTSUK NATION**

Pacific Rim Institute
Early Childhood Educator

My name is Deanna Harris, I am the mother to seven wonderful children. My kids and the kids I take care of mean the world to me. I have been a mom for eighteen years and love it. My kids are at the age where I can work so I got a job working at our local daycare and I'm also a full-time student taking my Basic ECE. My goals are to continue to be a good mom, teacher, and student, and to one day obtain my ECE Diploma.



Dionne Phillips **XAT'SŪLL FIRST NATION**

Thompson Rivers University
Early Childhood Education

I am in my second year of the Early Childhood Education program at TRU and I am very excited to finish the program and to work in the ECE field. The program that I am enrolled in is committed to providing a First Nations component to everyday tasks, such as language and culture, which will be an amazing addition to any daycare who values diversity. Every lesson I've learned has been so valuable and I look forward to contributing to a daycare environment as a certified Early Childhood Educator.



Deanna Patrick **SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION**

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

My name is Deanna Patrick, I am 27 years old. I am from a reserve called Saik'uz First Nations just outside of Vanderhoof, BC. I sit with the frog clan. I have two daughters who are seven and four years old. My interests are scrapbooking, watching baseball, and making cards! When I complete this ECE course I plan to further my education by taking Infant & Toddler and Special Needs. I want to run a daycare or be a Teachers Assistant.



Eden Obester **MÉTIS**

Sprott Shaw College
Special Education Teaching Assistant

Ever since I was young I have had a heart for people who have disabilities. Being an older sister to a young man with autism shaped who I am today; he is considered non-verbal and struggles with tasks people without autism find easy. In his unique way his brilliance shines bright and his heart for others is remarkable. He is the inspiration for my passion. My goal is to take what I learn and move back up north to bring more resources to communities who need me.



Every lesson I've learned has been so valuable and I look forward to contributing to a daycare environment as a certified Early Childhood Educator.

– DIONNE PHILLIPS



My main goal is to help make a difference and mold the future leaders of the next generation.

– FRANCIS PIERRE



Elizabeth Tom

STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Early Childhood Education and Care

A career goal would be to be working at a center that teaches First Nations language and culture. During my first practicum we counted the number of students in hulquminum and I sang a few songs. A personal goal would be to learn more hulquminum language and songs along the way so that if I do not make it into a First Nation center I could teach at a center that does not know the language. I love the idea of keeping our language alive and believe that it must be shared.



Francis Pierre

KATZIE FIRST NATION

Ridge Meadows College
Early Childhood Education

Hello, my name is Tse-los-el-til. my given name is Francis Pierre. I come from the Katzie First Nation. I currently work at our brand new Early Years Center. I have been working there for the past eight months as a Support Worker. I am currently going for an ECE certificate to become a full-time employee. My main goal is to help make a difference and mold the future leaders of the next generation. When I was asked to go for my ECE I immediately said yes and that's when my journey began.

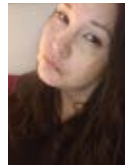


Hailey Meerdink

WITSET FIRST NATION

Northern Lights College
Early Childhood Education

My name is Hailey Meerdink, I am twenty years old. I am Wet'suwet'en from Witsset, BC. I am attending Northern Lights College and am enrolled in the ECE Program. I am working towards completing my diploma and then will work as an ECE in Witsset.



Fallon Crosby

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

University of Northern British Columbia
Tsimshian Sm'algyax Developmental Standard Term

Fallon Crosby Han uu dii ?iig?a ga (my name is). David Crosby han uu dii X?aadg?a kiiga ga (my fathers name is, he is a Haida Eagle), Il xadag?a k'uustak. Trudy Crosby han uu dii awg?a ?iiga ga Il Kwakwakwa (my mother's name is, she is Kwakuitl). I grew up on Haida Gwaii. Bella han uu dii gidg?a jaada ?iig?a ga (my daughters name is). I have been sober for over ten years! I am going to get my Bachelor of Education from UNBC and be a fully certified Xaayda kil (Haida Language) teacher. Haawa for supporting me!



Freda Thomas

TLA-O-QUI-AHT FIRST NATION

North Island College
Early Childhood Care & Education

I am 42 and a mother of four children. I have been with my spouse for twenty-six years. I live in Tofino, BC. To be a good role model for my children, I graduated with my Dogwood in 2011. Culture, education and health are important to me. I am excited to be taking my ECCE. When I graduate in June 2019 I hope to work in our local daycare. This won't be just a job for me, it will be a career that will improve my future and give our children the building blocks they need for a great future.



Jacey Hargreaves

MÉTIS

Lethbridge College
Child and Youth Care

Ever since I was a young child, I've always had the passion to help. I have always felt like I needed to give back to people in need in any way that I can. Through the Child and Youth Care line of work I have learned so much and have had the privilege to meet so many people and families who were in need of a helping hand. There is no words to describe how good of a feeling it is going home at the end of the day knowing that you have made a positive impact on someone's life.



Janean Hunt

KWAKIUTL BAND COUNCIL

North Island College
Early Childhood Care & Education

I am a mother to two daughters, my first born is almost five years old and my littlest has just turned one year old. I have been keeping my final grade range up to an A, I am on my second year of schooling or what would be considered a third year of part-time schooling. I also work at Childcare Centre full-time in my community. I am so grateful for this Bursary and to have the support of New Relationship Trust Foundation for help. I also want to thank my love for his support these past two years of schooling.



Janine Wilson

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Pacific Rim Institute
Early Childhood Educator

I am certified ECE Assistant and I have been working on completing my full ECE certificate for the last two years. I have been working in the ECE field for the last ten years in two preschools, a daycare, a headstart, a strongstart, a language best, and an elementary school. I am looking forward to completing my certificate and continuing my full-time work at the Skidegate daycare. In the future, I would like to complete my Infant Toddler certificate and complete my BA in English so I can one day be a Teacher.

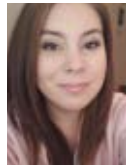


Jennifer Sharp

MÉTIS

Okanagan College
Early Childhood Education

My name is Jennifer Sharp, I am twenty three years old and currently attending Okanagan College in Salmon Arm in the Early Childhood Education Program. I plan on completing my diploma through Okanagan College and then transferring to Thompson Rivers University for my Bachelor of Education. My personal goals are to continue working hard in my studies and spend time with my family. Children and education are my two biggest passions and I look forward to pursuing my dream. I have the most amazing role models and am so lucky to have them supporting me.



Janessa Redwood-Henry

COWESSESS FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

I would like to get a Masters degree in Social Work and work within the Criminal Justice system with Indigenous youth and women. I would like to learn more about Indigenous culture so that when I work in the field I could encourage children and youth to be more involved in traditional Indigenous culture, to regain revitalization into today's society.



Jennifer Reandy

HEILTSUK NATION

Pacific Rim Institute
Early Childhood Educator

My name is Jennifer and I am from Bella Bella also known as Heiltsuk Nation. I was born here but left for high school and came back to raise and teach my children our culture. I'm a mother to three beautiful children aged sixteen, fourteen, and ten years old. My personal goal is to finish the course I am taking as I enjoy working with the children. When I was a child I told my mom I was going to be a Teacher and that is what I am now doing.



Jolicia Naziel

WITSET FIRST NATION

College of New Caledonia
Early Childhood Care and Learning

I knew that working with children was my passion and I could see myself in that field of work because of my work experience. I loved it and I was told that I was a natural. This encouraged me to upgrade in the UCEP Program in 2014-2015. In 2016-2017, I applied at CNC for the ECCL Certificate Program and I moved to PG and received my Certificate with honors. I had struggles with my education, but I pushed through and I'm reaching my career goals. I'm currently enrolled in the 2018-2019 ECCL Diploma Program and proud of what I've accomplished.



Jordan Pollard

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

**Northwest Community College
Early Childhood Care & Education**

Hello, I'm Jordan Pollard, born and raised on Haida Gwaii, BC. I am currently enrolled in the two year course at Coast Mountain College in Terrace, BC to become an Early Childhood Educator. Over the next two years I will be gaining experience with children in different environments and backgrounds. After I complete my courses and receive my Diploma, I want to bring it back to my hometown of Skidegate, Haida Gwaii and help all those in need of Early Childhood Educators.



Joshua Houghton

SQUAMISH NATION

**Capilano University
University One for Aboriginal Learners**

I am choosing to move forward on my educational journey in the field of Early Childhood Education and Social Work. Over the next five years I will be focusing on my Bachelors of Early Childhood Education at Capilano University, and work closely with my instructors and Department to transition my degree into Social Work. I would really like to be a Social Worker for my community and make a positive impact for my Nation. The children are our future and we need to nurture their young minds and uplift their spirits. Give them a sense of Indigenous Pride.



Karissa Brown

BURNS LAKE BAND

**College of New Caledonia
Early Childhood Care and Learning**

I grew up in Burns Lake, British Columbia on the Burns Lake Band or Tsil Kaz Koh First Nation. I am a member of the Luksilyoo' (Caribou) Clan. I have always been surrounded by culture and above all else, the love from my large family and extended family. Through their teachings I have grown to love children and felt entering into the Early Childhood Care & Learning Program at the College of New Caledonia would give me the tools I need to begin an exciting career working with children in a variety of settings. Mussi Cho NRTF!!



Jordyn Bubela-McRae

GITSEGUKLA FIRST NATION

**Seabird Island College
Education Assistant**

Jordyn McRae is an Education Assistant student at the Seabird Island College. Her studies are always focused on providing her greatest work. Her goals are to work hard and to travel the world after she's finished her studies. She's driven by achieving her goal of one day becoming an Elementary/Primary teacher by always attending classes and participating with everything she's got.



Julian Lowley

LAKE BABINE NATION

**College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker (UT)**

My name is Julian Lowley and I belong to the Frog Clan of the Lake Babine Nation people located in Burns Lake, BC. I left my small community to figure out who I wanted to be when I was older and what I wanted to do for a career. I have gone through many career paths like engineering, computer networking, and law enforcement. After working in the field of Social Service work, I realized that I wanted to become a Social Worker. I plan on working as a Guardianship Social Worker for a local designated Aboriginal Agency.



Kirsten McKay

MÉTIS

**Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Education Assistant Program**

Hello! My name is Kirsten McKay. I am a young Metis women attending university after five years out of school. I am pursuing a career in the Education system. I am starting off as an Education Assistant with plans of possibly becoming a Teacher at a later date. I am also hoping to take my love of children and animals to the next level and help troubled children through animal therapy.



Larissa Mowat

SKOWKALE FIRST NATION

Douglas College

Associate of Arts - Psychology

I am a proud member of Stó:lō First Nation. I am currently enrolled at Douglas College and about to enter the second year of the Associate of Arts Diploma with a focus on Psychology. My short term goal is to complete my Diploma and continue on and complete my Bachelors Degree and eventually become a registered Psychologist. Once I complete this I would like to work with my community to share my knowledge and experience.



Liza Haldane

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Coast Mountain College

Early Childhood Care & Education

My name is Liza Haldane. I am from the House of Duuk and the Laxgibuu Clan. I am a proud mother of three and our family is nestled in the community of Laxgalts'ap within the Nisga'a Nation. I have chosen ECCE because I strongly believe my Ancestors have guided me here. Many of my people are suffering from detrimental childhood experiences due to the effects of colonization and residential school. My current practice is rooted in social emotional wellness and brain development. I will continue my educational journey to influence various levels and sectors that support First Nations people.



Meagen John

SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

Native Education College

Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

Hadih, my name is Meagen John From Saik'uz First Nation, Frog clan. My dream is to become an Infant and Toddler Daycare Worker and accomplish my Special Needs training. During my schooling I fell in love in working with the babies, I always wanted lots of kids. Unfortunately, I was not able to have lots of kids so my next dream is to work with all the babies and one day open my own daycare.



Lenore Jones

PACHEEDAHT FIRST NATION

Native Education College

Aboriginal Infant and Toddler Educator

After completing my diploma, I plan to work towards enrolling at University of British Columbia in the Native Indigenous Teaching Education Program and eventually moving home to work with children and families in my home community.



Makayla Commodore

SOOWAHLIE FIRST NATION

University of the Fraser Valley

Social Services

My career goal is to finish my diploma in Social Work and carry on to a Bachelor program. I am only in my second year so I have a long road ahead of me. Last year I lost someone special to me and lost the motivation in my studies. This year I am remembering whats important to me which includes working hard in my studies. I can't thank NRTF enough for the extra help in completing my goals.



Monica Wilson

STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University

Early Childhood Education and Care

As of right now, my goal is to successfully complete all ECE courses to receive a Diploma. In the near future I would like to work in a Childcare facility to use and explore everything I have been taught throughout each required class. Once I have gained more experience in this field, my next step is to continue my schooling to further my education into getting a Bachelor of ECE. Therefore, my long-term goal is to commit my career to my community childcare facility in Stz'uminus.



I will continue my educational journey to influence various levels and sectors that support First Nations people.

– LIZA HALDANE



I love children and I plan to make a difference in all children's lives in BC.

– RACHEL THOMAS



Nicole Newcombe NUXALK NATION

Okanagan College
Early Childhood Education

My name is Nicole Newcombe, I am a thirty five year old mother of one. My three year old daughter was my inspiration to go back to school and take my career in this direction. I lived in Bella Coola, BC most of my life. I moved to the mainland as soon as I graduated high school when I was eighteen. My great-grandfather was Orden Mack, the brother of Clayton Mack who wrote a couple books. One was "White guys and grizzlies" and the other was "Bella Coola man".



Rachel Thomas SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

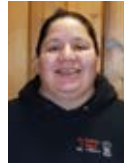
I strove throughout the course to become the top student and I accomplished it. I was Valedictorian and I plan on continuing my career in the teaching field. I plan on taking the NITEP program in the near future. My mom is a Teacher, her mom was a Teacher, and I'm going to be a Teacher. What can I say but we were born a family of teachers. I love children and I plan to make a difference in all children's lives in BC.



Renai Johnny ?ESDILAGH FIRST NATION

Thompson Rivers University
Early Childhood Education

I am currently attending my final year of Early Childhood Education. Once I finish school in April I am thinking about furthering my education or to hopefully start working in this field in my own community. I have also recently had my son Lennie, September 27th. Also, I have two dogs.



Patricia Clark HEILTSUK NATION

Pacific Rim Institute
Early Childhood Educator

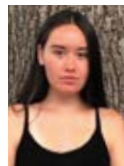
My name is Patricia Clark, I am from the Heiltsuk Nation. I have been working with children for the past ten years through Aboriginal Head Start as well at our local daycare. I am actively involved with teaching our language. I am passionate about working with children and helping them learn and explore new things. I am currently working towards my Basic ECE Certificate and would love to one day obtain my ECE diploma. I see myself working for my people for a long time and teaching our children and youth our culture.



Rena Joe LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

My name is Rena Joe, I am a member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band in Merritt, BC. I am an Aboriginal Infant Development Worker at the Nzen'man' Child and Family Development Center Society in the Nicola Valley. The program offers supports to families of infants who are at risk or have been diagnosed with developmental delays which concentrates on newborns to four years old. With home and center visits the program can assess family needs. I am a single mother with three children and the care-provider for my granddaughter and nephew. She attends classes and continues learning Nle?kepmxcin.



Shanice Parr NUXALK NATION

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

Nuxalk lady raised in Bella Coola with a population of 1900. I am the twin of a special needs brother. I have twin sisters who are ten years younger than me. I love playing sports and travelling. Having a special needs twin brother has shown me patience and what it takes to live with a special needs individual. I will achieve a diploma in Early Childhood Special Needs and have secured a job following my graduation. I found a deep connection working with special needs and will continue my career path with people who are similar to my twin.



Shaniece Angus

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Douglas College
Child and Youth Care

Currently, I am working for the City of Vancouver as a Program Assistant (II) within the Vancouver Parks Board, working with youth and families in community centres. My main passion is to empower, support and encourage those around me, to achieve their goals in whatever people wish to pursue. My most recent aspiration that I have discovered; inspired by the communities I work in, is to get my fitness certification so I can share the passion I have for physical health and wellness with the community. It is my goal to be a Youth Worker/Health and Wellness Programmer.



Shaquinna Perron

SQUAMISH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

Hello, my name is Shaquinna Perron, I am 20 years old, and I am from the Squamish Nation Band in North Vancouver BC. I am also Ojibway from the father's side who is from the Wawa Reservation in Ontario. I went to NVIT for a semester to upgrade courses and now I attend SFU studying Psychology in hopes of becoming a Child Psychologist or a Criminal Lawyer.



Stephanie Wright

GITXAALA NATION

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

My name is Stephanie Wright, I am from Gitxaala Nation. I have lived in Vancouver, BC since 2001. I have been an Early Childhood Educator since 2003. I was asked to work with infants and toddlers back in 2013 and have enjoyed it since. I loved it so much I decided to take the Infant/Toddler SN program with the Native Education College. I absolutely love teaching the younger ones. To me it feels like the very beginning of the children's learning.



Shannon Kelly

KWANTLEN FIRST NATION

Northern Lights College
Early Childhood Education

Hello, my name is Shannon Kelly, I am 28 years old. I currently work with the Headstart program on Kwantlen First Nation reservation number six in Fort Langley. I have been here for about five years now and really enjoy working with the kids and watching them grow up. I have two daughters, six and eight. I have completed the Health, Safety, and Nutrition course online from Northern Lights College and really enjoyed taking the course.



Shelaya Taylor

MÉTIS

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education

I am from the Metis Nation and I am studying Early Childhood Education at Native Education College.



Tina William

SPLATSIN FIRST NATION

Okanagan College
Early Childhood Education

My name is Tina William. I live with my fiancé Chris August and I am a mother of five children. I am the daughter of George William and Bev William. I am of Splatstin decent. I have two brothers: Micheal William and Randy William. My future goal is to become employed at Splatstin Tsm7aksaltn Center in Enderby, BC. I plan to complete my ECE with a certificate in December 2019 and then carry on to complete Infant/Toddler Certificate and get my ECE Diploma.



I have worked very hard to get to where I am and I am so blessed to have the support and opportunities that I have from my community.

– TIFFANY WOODS-LECLERC



Timothy Miterick

WOODLAND CREE FIRST NATION

**Okanagan College
Associate of Arts**

As a second year Arts student and representative of my First Nation and our people, I consider myself privileged to honor those of support by dedicating my continued attention to pursue a stronger and defined academic extension; one which brings continuity and clarity to the goals I must achieve.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and remain fixed upon new solutions to the obstacles which stand between now and a BSW, as I prepare to enter grad level courses offered at the University of Victoria in the department of Social Work later this September.



Tiffany Woods-Leclerc

**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
GITLAXT'AAMIKS**

**Northwest Community College
Early Childhood Care & Education**

Hello, my name is Tiffany. My family is from Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC. I started the ECE courses at the Coast Mountain College in Terrace, BC in 2017. I am a mother to a little boy named Ray who is now two and a half.

I have worked very hard to get to where I am and I am so blessed to have the support and opportunities that I have from my community. This career path is what I am most passionate about.

Working alongside children, their families and the community is what I aspire to achieve throughout my professional career as a I/T caregiver.



Vanessa Antoine
BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

Sprott Shaw College
Medical Office Administrator Health Unit Clerk

I am a mom of two boys, ages two and seven years old. I was ready to change careers after working more than ten years as a Daycare Educator. I was really interested in working in the Health Care field and I felt like this would be the best fit for me. I just started a job with Interior Health Authority as a Medical Office Administrator and I'm very excited about my new career path! Thank you to the NRTF for your support.



Zoey Parent
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Northwest Community College
Early Childhood Care & Education

My Name is Zoey Parent and I am from the Nisga'a Nation. I am in my second year of the Early Childhood Care and Education Diploma Program with Coast Mountain College, formerly Northwest Community College. I attend classes via video conference in my hometown of Hazelton, British Columbia, Gitksan Territory. I would like to acknowledge New Relationship Trust Foundation for its generosity and making these bursaries available to us. Hamiyaa, Thank You.



I am extremely honoured and thankful that the NRTF is available for our people to grow and work toward better opportunities through education. I believe we can change our lives through education and heal from our colonial history of trauma.

– ASHLEY AZAK



Alana LaMalice

K'ATL'ODEECHE FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

I'm Dene/Gwichen/Cree/Chipewyan from K'at'odeeche First Nation, Northwest Territories. I raised my daughter who graduated from high school last year and is currently completing her first year of University at the at NVIT Burnaby Campus. I'm finishing my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work Degree at the NVIT Merritt Campus. Both my parents were in residential school and I'm a survivor of intergenerational residential school effects. I'm working on no longer just surviving, but thriving. I hope to empower First Nations youth and young adults while working within the HIV field or Correctional Institutions sector.



Ang Smith

GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a Gitksan woman and a single-mother to a fifteen-year old young man. My interest in social work stems from my personal and community experiences along with the well documented and tragic impacts of colonization. I want to be part of the solution. My experience in the Gitksan territory has enriched me with support through my connection with community, the feasting system, and Gitksanimx. I have participated in the adult Gitksanimx language class for the last six years and this has allowed me to grow and has also grounded me as a person in numerous ways.



Annika Martynuik

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Education

My name is Annika Martynuik and I am a proud member of the Skidegate Band Council. I'm studying towards a Bachelor of Education at Vancouver Island University. I was inspired to pursue a career in education by the teachers I had growing up. I plan on becoming a teacher at an elementary school or to teach English as a second language.



Ashley Azak

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Child and Youth Care

Hlguu Daath Hlway, Gitwinksihlkw wil witgwiy', Gitwangak wil jogay'. My Nisga'a name is Hlguu Daath, I am from the village of Gitwinksihlkw, I live in the village of Gitwangak. I am in my third year of post-secondary and working toward a Bachelor's Degree in Child and Youth care. I am extremely honoured and thankful that the NRTF is available for our people to grow and work toward better opportunities through education. I believe we can change our lives through education and heal from our colonial history of trauma.



Bianca Swanson

OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of General Studies

My name is Bianca and I am from Old Massett Village Council. I am studying a Bachelor of General Studies at Thompson Rivers University.



Breyanna Hiebert

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

I am excited to be moving into the final year of my Social Work program, thereby being that much closer to working in my community. I am hoping to pursue a career in Indigenous Health care once I graduate, with the ultimate goal of obtaining my Masters degree.



Brittany Seymour

KITSELAS FIRST NATIONS

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

My name is Brittany Seymour, I am Tahltan from my Mother's side, and Tsimshian from my Father's side. I belong to the Tses' Kiya (crow) clan through our matrilineal culture. I grew up in Gitau, a Kitselas community about 22km east of Terrace, British Columbia. I am enrolled in the Native Indigenous Teachers Education Program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. I am learning how to include Indigenous knowledge and practices in the classroom. The New Relationship Trust Foundation Scholarship is a big help for me to further my education and I really appreciate the award.



Cassandra Omeasoo

ERMINESKIN CREE NATION

Douglas College
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Cassandra Omeasoo and I am in my fourth year at Douglas College studying Social Work and will be graduating this year. When I am not in school I am working in my community with different organizations: The City of Burnaby and Spirit of The Children's Society. My passion is to work with children and families in a supportive role. I hope to one day continue my education and work towards a Masters in Social Work or Counselling and then open my own practice. My favorite hobbies include spending time with my friends & family and hiking.



I am learning how to include Indigenous knowledge and practices in the classroom. The New Relationship Trust Foundation Scholarship is a big help for me to further my education and I really appreciate the award.

– BRITTANY SEYMOUR



Caroline Thompson

TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care

Returning to school to work toward a higher education has been on my mind for the last seven years. Everything lined up towards getting into the degree program, after twelve years of being in the workforce full-time. I want to be a role model for my kids and my family, to show that education is key to getting a great career. I was working three jobs to provide for my sons and myself, I wanted a change to one job. There's so many possibilities for my career after obtaining my Child & Youth Care Degree.



Chelsey Hardy

NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION

Capilano University
Bachelor of Early Childhood Care and Education

Hi, I am Chelsey Hardy, I am 28 years old with a passion for the Early Childhood Education field. My personal goals are to complete my degree and put it to work in rural northern BC communities engaging in local Aboriginal pedagogies to help create a deeper sense of self for children and their families.



Crystal Prince

NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

Hadih, my name is Crystal Prince. I have seven siblings and I am the oldest. I have one son and family is very important to us. I have begun my final year for a Bachelor of Social Work. When completed, I will continue my role as a Guardianship Social Worker for Carrier Sekani Family Services in Prince George. I am very fortunate to be able to work with and support people that are from the surrounding territories of Prince George. My goal is to ensure that the children that I work for stay connected to their families, communities, and culture.



Destiny Hoostie

WHITE BEAR FIRST NATIONS

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Destiny Hoostie, I am an Indigenous female who was raised in East Vancouver. I experienced many hardships throughout my life. However, after giving birth to my daughter at the age of twenty one, I was determined to provide a better life for my daughter so she didn't have to experience the same traumatic upbringing. Once I became a mother I changed my lifestyle. I strive to provide a loving environment that my daughter can flourish in. Through lived experiences and empathy I would love to support other Indigenous families in the Social Worker field.



Heather Holland

WITSET FIRST NATION

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

Heather belongs to the Gitumden Clan of the Witset Nation. She is a mother of five children and a full-time mature Student attending UNBC in her third year of Social Work. Heather is a strong advocate for First Nations issues, she enjoys mentoring and speaking within this aspect, ensuring there is a voice with an imperative Indigenous perspective. Her goal, to bring equality and rights to our Indigenous people through education and mentorship with dignity and respect within her own perspective and life experiences, she shares with resilience and strength. Working towards a better future for our Nation and future leaders.



Jazmyn Williams

SQUAMISH NATION

Capilano University
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Behaviour Analysis (Autism)

Throughout my entire life I have wanted to work with children and for a long time I was considering becoming a Teacher or a Counsellor. When my little brother was diagnosed with autism and I got the opportunity to meet his Behaviour Interventionist and Behaviour Consultant I knew that working with children who had autism was what I was meant to do. My little brother has inspired my career goals and I am determined to do the best I can in school for him and children like him.



Georgia Baker

SQUAMISH NATION

University of Calgary
Bachelor of Education

I am attending the University of Calgary to become an Elementary School Teacher. I am hoping to go on to do my Masters and focus on creating a more inclusive Indigenous Education in any district I teach in. It is important for me to show my future Indigenous students that they can achieve their highest dreams with hard work and dedication.



Jacquelyn Gladstone

HEILTSUK NATION

Capilano University
Bachelor of Early Childhood Care and Education

My name is Jacquelyn Gladstone, I am currently working towards obtaining a degree in ECCE and upon completion I plan on applying to the PDP program at SFU to become an Elementary Teacher.



Jada Benko

FISHER RIVER CREE NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a 25 year old Aboriginal student from Quesnel, British Columbia. I am from the Fisher River Cree Nation in Manitoba. I have completed my BA in Sociology at UBC Okanagan. I am currently in my third year of Social Work at UBC Vancouver. My future goal is to achieve my Masters in Social Work. I have always wanted to help people that struggle with accessing resources. I want to work with Aboriginal youth while also maintaining their culture and identity that often gets diminished within society.



It is important for me to show my future Indigenous students that they can achieve their highest dreams with hard work and dedication.

– GEORGIA BAKER



Jeannie Leon

TLA'AMIN NATION

**University of the Fraser Valley
Bachelor of Education**

Cheenah is my ancestral name, my given name is Jeannie and I come from Tla'amin. My husband and I are proud parents of a beautiful nine year old boy, we are growing our roots in Sts'ailes where my husband comes from. In the past year, I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and I am continuing my education to receive a Teacher Certification/Bachelor of Education at UFV.

To me, being an Indigenous teacher means investing in the future generation which is one of my main career goals. I would like to take my knowledge and feed it back into my community.



Jessica Creyke

WITSET FIRST NATION

**University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education**

Hadih! Jessica Creyke Dzitni. I am from the Wet'suwet'en Nation in Northern BC. I am Likht'samis'yu (Killerwhale). I am currently enrolled in the NITEP Program at University of British Columbia. I have always had a passion for working with children and youth. I decided to pursue Education to show my three children that education is the key to success.

My ultimate goal is to return to my community and work with our Wet'suwet'en children. Apart from school, my passion lies in instilling culture and language in my children. Tabi Misiyh' NRTF



Jessica Naziel

WITSET FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

I am from Witset, BC and I belong to the Beaver Clan (Tsayu). I have graduated from the College of New Caledonia in June with my Associate of Arts Degree. I am attending UBC Vancouver for the NITEP (Indigenous Teacher Education Program). I think education has made a difference in my life and I want to teach children that they can follow their dreams. I want to learn and teach culture so the children in my community can become confident about themselves. I hope to make a difference in other people's lives.



Jonathan Doane

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

Hello! I am a fourth year Bachelor of Education student currently in my last year of study. I can happily say that I am nearing the end of my original educational goals! Having been exposed to so many interesting minds and concepts that will hopefully carry me through my chosen profession, I can't help but feel excited to make these next few steps into the workforce. I intend to continue to my education and complete a Masters within the next few years after teaching for a couple of years. Thank you so much for your help along the way!



Kate MacMillan

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Human Kinetics

Hi! My name is Kate MacMillan, and I am a proud Métis woman. I am in my first year of a Bachelor of Human Kinetics and my goal is to pursue a career as a Sports Medicine Doctor. In addition, I hope to keep playing ringette and to continue creating art. I am very excited for what the future holds and my goals are to keep doing the things I love and be as successful as I possibly can!



Kiana Olafson

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

My name is Kiana Olafson and I am Metis. I am currently in my third year of the Bachelor of Education in the Indigenous Teacher Education Program at the University of British Columbia. My goal as a teacher is to incorporate Indigenous Education into my classroom in order to create a safe, comfortable learning environment for all students as well as inspire young Indigenous students to explore their passions and pursue their goals.



Kirstie West

SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

My name is Kirstie West and I am from Saik'uz First Nation. I am currently in my fourth year of the Bachelor of Arts program as a Psychology major. I am a mother to a 22 month old daughter and a full-time student at Simon Fraser University. It has been very challenging being a new mother and a full-time student, but it is definitely the best decision that I made, going back to school. In the future, I would like to work with my community and develop mental health programs that incorporate First Nations culture and traditions.



Lachanda Manuel

TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWPEMC

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Social Work

Weykt, My name is Lachanda Manuel and I am a member of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc in Kamloops. My community has always been important to me and that is why I am enrolling into the Social Work program at Thompson Rivers University. I am currently working towards being a Wellness Counsellor for the Tk'emlúps Indian Band, so I can be there for my people. I am also taking the Aboriginal Studies Certificate alongside my degree to help guide me towards a better understanding of the past history my people have been through.



Leon Erickson

NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

I used to think that asking for help was a weakness, I realized, it is actually trusting others to assist me with my goal. I have a twenty four year old son who has been living with a disease called Vasculitis for the last twenty one months. I have a four year old daughter who has Cerebral Palsy. Each day they wake up and find a reason to smile and laugh. Their resilience renewed my resolve to achieve my dream. My children gave me courage to return to school. Your financial assistance gave me the ability. I wish to extend my gratitude and appreciation to you.



Meagan Wilson

WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

I am an Indigenous woman from Campbell River, BC. My family comes from the four corners of the Kwakwaka'wakw territory. I have a desire and it is in my nature to help others. My initial career goals are to obtain a Masters Degree in Social Work and go back to my community to be of assistance there. My mother's wish was for me to move back home one day, which I will do when I am fully prepared and educated.



Melissa Creyke

TAHLTAN BAND

University of Calgary
Bachelor of Social Work

Hi, my name is Melissa Creyke, I am from Tahltan First Nation. I am the eldest of eleven children and the mother of a four year old son. I am currently going into the last year of my undergrad for Social Work. I decided to pursue this area of work because of my personal life experience. I am six years sober and I want to work in Addictions and Mental Health. I am hoping to pursue a Masters Degree in Social Work once I graduate. I believe it is up to us to help our people.



Luke Thomas

TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

I am Luke Thomas, I am a member of the Tseil-Waututh Nation. I am in my third year at NVIT where I was recently accepted into the BSW program. I would like to thank the NRTF for their support again this year. I truly appreciate the help as it would be so much harder on my own. My goal is to obtain a Masters degree in Social Work and continue to serve people.



Megan Harkey

MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

I'm really excited to be embarking on this journey towards being an Educator. As a future Teacher, I look forward to working towards Indigenizing the classroom setting with meaningful, well-balanced curriculum and hopefully breaking down some of the barriers that our youth face in the education system.



Melissa Camsell

K'ATL'ODEECHE FIRST NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a northern Dene woman from K'at'odeeche First Nation, NT. I am a mother of three children and we reside in Nooaitch, a small Reservation in British Columbia's southern interior. I am currently enrolled in my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work program with a specialization in Child Welfare at NVIT in Merritt, BC. After graduation, my career goal is to work within the surrounding First Nation communities as an advocate for First Nations families. After I have gained fundamental work experience, my future educational goal is to pursue a Masters in Social Work. Mahsi cho NRTF!



I truly appreciate the help as it would be so much harder on my own. My goal is to obtain a Masters degree in Social Work and continue to serve people.

– LUKE THOMAS



Mercediese Dawson

DITIDAHT FIRST NATION

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Social Work

I am from the Ditidaht First Nation on my mother's side and the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw & Laich-Kwil-Tach Nations on my father's side. I am in the final year of the Bachelor of Social Work degree with an Indigenous Specialization. I hope to carry on to law school after graduation. If not, I want to work with Indigenous families who have been affected by the Child Welfare system. I want to help bring as many kids home as possible. No matter what I do or where my education leads me, I will do it for my family, my ancestors, my people.



Nikita Jack

BOOTHROYD INDIAN BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Social Work

I want to be able to help decolonize some of society's current institutions or to help decolonize the First Nations population. I have many passions when it comes to helping the First Nations population and at this point in my life I feel that if I could help in any way it would make my heart happy.



Rose Winona Patterson

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Rose Winona Patterson and I am the granddaughter to Dorothy Smart Clark and the niece to Frank Calder of the Nisga'a Nation. I was adopted by my mother of the Patterson family and raised in Vermont. My family was caucasian, my parents were of Quaker religion, and I was raised off the land without electricity. In 2015 I returned to Canada and reconnected with my First Nations culture. I have completed a certification at VIU as a Mental Health Worker and also in the Community Health Promotions for Aboriginal Communities. Now I am working on my Social Work degree.



Noelle Bulleid

LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

With graduation quickly approaching (May 2019) I find myself achieving what I wanted and more. Through life skills and practicum experiences the rewards of my learning journey are extremely exciting. I am looking forward to starting work as a Teacher and to continue to connect the many layers of resilience through my work. To have the credentials and be a Teacher that promotes the world views of First Nations people, fully support students where they are, builds collaborative relationships, and continues to create a safe welcoming environment is what I envision. Thank you.



Ragina Charlie

PENELAKUT TRIBE

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care

My name is Ragina Charlie and I am a member of the Penelakut Tribe. I'm currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care Program at Vancouver Island University. My goal is to bring what I'm learning back to my home community to support families and children. After I graduate from my program, my goal is to enroll in the Master of Arts in Child and Youth Care or Social Work Program at the University of Victoria. My career goal is to become a Family and Youth Counselor.



Rosalee Morgan

GITWANGAK BAND

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Social Work

I am Gitksan and Unistoten, my tradition and cultures are without a doubt my strength, this is what kept me focused on my goal of attaining a Bachelors Degree in Social Work. Furthering my education has positively influenced my children's lives due to the example that I have set for them. With each positive choice and decision I make, I am drying my grandmother's tears because they didn't have the privileges I have today.



Samantha Jeffery

MÉTIS

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Education

Growing up with a mother as a Teacher, I knew from the start that teaching was what I wanted to do. I am currently a full-time student working hard at getting a Bachelor of Education with a minor in Indigenous Studies. My goal is to become an Elementary teacher and teach Kindergarten or Grade one. I think these are very important years in a child's life and I strive to help them start the base of their knowledge. If I can teach, as well as make children want to learn, then I will have achieved my goal.



Sandy Henry

LIL'WAT NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

My name is Sandy Henry and I am a full-time working student, mother, and wife. I live in the beautiful Lil'wat Nation. I am currently studying at UBC in their NITEP program to fulfill my dream of becoming a Teacher at my community school, where I currently work as an Education Assistant. I have always been told that "there's no can't" and "you're never done learning" and these are definitely words that I live by. I am so grateful to be given this opportunity to make my dreams a reality.



Tanner Foreman

TAHLTAN BAND

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

My goal after University is to use my degree in Psychology to become a Clinical Psychologist specializing in Adolescent Development.



Tianna Grosse

OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

I am excited to be starting the second to last year of a Bachelors in Elementary Education through NITEP at UBC. Having an end date to my studies has made this long educational journey worth it and I am looking forward to returning home to work in my community upon completion. My passion lies in working with children in a school setting and ensuring they have a safe, comfortable, and happy space to show up to everyday that enables them to learn and grow in all aspects of life.



Tina Wenman

BOSTON BAR FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

My name is Tina Wenman, I am from Boston Bar First Nation which is one of the First Nation Bands within the Nlaka'pamux territory. I am currently enrolled in the Indigenous Teachers Education Program (NITEP) as an undergrad in the Bachelor of Education offered at University of British Columbia (UBC), this is my third year of studies. Currently I work at the Sts'ailes Community School as an Education Assistant. I would like to thank the Early Years and Indigenous Early Years Policy and Programs which was hosted by Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) for granting me this scholarship.



Tish Lovely

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

I am becoming a Teacher of children! Currently I am living a dream come true of being a mother to a six year old daughter. I ran a Group Home for children with disabilities prior to gaining a degree in Psychology. I have a special interest in Indigenous youth and hope that I can help break the chain of over-representation of Indigenous little ones in care through early detection and help! I hope to gain a Counselling degree while I teach on-call as I will make a great School Counsellor.



Samantha Desautels

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

**Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Education**

I will be studying the Bachelor of Education program at Vancouver Island University this September. Being Aboriginal I am able to connect with and understand the difficulties Aboriginal students may be facing in all aspects of their lives. I am a young Aboriginal woman with a strong work ethic and I am very motivated to be the best Teacher I can be.

Having two young daughters while going to school will be a struggle, but knowing that all of the hard work will pay off in the end to give my daughters a better life motivates me even more.



Shakti Baker

SQUAMISH NATION

**University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education**

Hi! My name is Shakti Baker and I am from the Squamish Nation. I am currently in my fifth year at the University of British Columbia with a passion for education. My education focuses on different ways to incorporate Indigenous teachings as well as create a place that our Indigenous students feel welcomed and valued. Once I graduate, I hope to work as an Elementary School Teacher and help provide children with a successful foundation for life.

I could not be more honored or grateful to be receiving the New Relationship Trust Foundation Undergrad Indigenous Early Years Scholarship.



Carly Jones

MÉTIS

University of Victoria
Master of Social Work

My name is Carly Jones and I am Métis from St. Adolphe, Manitoba. I am currently working towards a Masters of Social Work in the Indigenous Specialization on the traditional territory of the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNE? peoples at the University of Victoria. My goal is to contribute to a growing body of much needed research done by and for Métis people in partnership with the Métis community. My best hope is that my research will help address a gap in Métis-specific child health/well-being research that is both rooted in and accountable to the Métis community in BC.



Charmaine Peal

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Thompson Rivers University
Master of Education

My name is Charmaine Peal, my Nisga'a name is NaxNokgumGanaaw. I'm from the Raven/Frog clan, the house of Luux Hoon. I am a mother, teacher, and student. I'm in my second year of the Master of Education program at Thompson Rivers University. I love to encourage others to succeed in their goals. I believe in lifelong learning. I love harvesting berries and preserving Nisga'a food. I look forward to going back to my community to teach and to share my knowledge.



My goal is to contribute to a growing body of much needed research done by and for Métis people in partnership with the Métis community.

– CARLY JONES



I will get to help people improve their quality of life and become more independent and I am honoured that the New Relationship Trust Foundation is taking part in helping me get there.

– CASSIDY SWENSON



Cassidy Swenson

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Master of Physical Therapy

I am entering the Master of Physical Therapy program at the University of British Columbia. Upon graduation, I will begin working as a Physiotherapist. I aspire to specialize in treating people with neurological conditions, including, but not limited to, Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, and Spinal Cord Injury. I will get to help people improve their quality of life and become more independent and I am honoured that the New Relationship Trust Foundation is taking part in helping me get there.



Colleen Manson

SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION

Simon Fraser University
Master in Linguistics of Hul'q'umi'num'

I am xwukweybox Colleen Manson, daughter of Late Howard & Eleanor Manson, granddaughter of late Richard & Pearl Wyse, Adam & Emily Manson. I am from Snuneymuxw. I attribute my learning journey of the hul'q'umi'num' language to those who came before me. My grandmother Emily always emphasized that without language, there is no culture. My grandmother's teachings, especially this message will stay with me forever. I am presently teaching the hul'q'umi'num' language in SD 69. I am enrolled in the SFU First Nations hul'q'umi'num' linguistics program. The language is our identity, culture, and connection to the land.



Dina Brown

OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia
Master of Science in Occupational
Therapy

My name is Dina Brown and I am Syilx from the Okanagan. I am currently in my second year of the Masters of Occupational Therapy program at UBC. I also have a Bachelors Degree in Kinesiology from UBC. My first year was very busy but I am grateful to be in the health field. I aspire to improve the health of Indigenous peoples including our Elders and children. Given the full-time nature of my program with multiple fieldwork placements, I am grateful for the support from the Indigenous Early Years Scholarship from NRTF. Lim Limpt for supporting my educational journey!



Justin Duncan

MÉTIS

University of British Columbia
Master of Physical Therapy

I hail from Prince George, BC and completed my Undergraduate degree in Kinesiology at the University of British Columbia. The past year has led me to Physical Therapy school as I have a keen interest in personal rehabilitation and helping others live a healthy life. My personal and career goals include graduating from Physical Therapy school, returning to my hometown to work as a Physiotherapist, and to help underserved populations reach their true health potential. I am an advocate for equality within the health care system and strive to make this happen amongst all populations.



I have worked with different First Nations organizations over the past 25 years. I look forward to continuing my work with a focus on healing. I am thankful for the support and the opportunity to continue my education.

– JOAN FLETCHER



Joan Fletcher

HIGH BAR FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Master of Social Work

My name is Joan Fletcher and I am Secwepemc. My goal is to complete a Masters in Social Work and continue my work with First Nations families and communities. I have worked with different First Nations organizations over the past 25 years. I look forward to continuing my work with a focus on healing. I am thankful for the support and the opportunity to continue my education. I acknowledge all the sacrifices my ancestors have made so that I can have this opportunity. I hope to be an example to my children and future grandchildren. Kukstemc.



Keenan Andrew

AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION

University of Victoria
Master of Arts in Child and Youth Care

Uu-klah-muh, Imscha hístuuk-shilth Ahousaht hístuuk-shilth Nu-u-chah-nulth Isaak camis Chuu – Klecko klecko. My traditional name is Imscha, I come from the people of Ahousaht of the Nu-u-chah-nulth Nation. Respectfully, thank you. My personal/career goals are that I intend on opening a group home specifically for Indigenous children and youth. Furthermore, I have aspirations of adopting Indigenous siblings who might otherwise be separated from one another in the foster care system. I have developed this strong sense to support my Indigenous community because my mother is a residential school survivor and has devoted her life to this cause as well.



I am grateful for the support from the Indigenous Early Years Scholarship from NRTF. Lim Limpt for supporting my educational journey!

– DINA BROWN



Niki Watts

SADDLE LAKE CREE NATION

Yorkville University

Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology

Niki Watts is Plains Cree artist from Bella Coola BC. Watts uses her Indigenous heritage as inspiration for art and to bring to attention important issues in the world. Seeing her rural community struggle with mental health, she felt compelled to become a Counsellor. Watts is in her first year of Yorkville University's Master of Arts Counselling Psychology Program. She plans to open a counselling practice in her community that blends counselling, art therapy, and traditional First Nations healing. Watts hopes to help Indigenous people heal from past trauma, as well as inspire them to reach for their goals.



Norissa Mongrain

ANTOINE FIRST NATION

University of Waterloo

Master of Social Work

Kwey kwey! I am thrilled to be receiving the IEY Scholarship. I knew I wanted to be a Social Worker when I was a youth aging out of care. My initial goal was to work in child welfare but I soon realized that healthy families start with a strong community and advocating for change at the policy level. I chose to earn a Master of Social Work degree to increase Indigenous representation in political arenas and mental health practice. The next step is a PhD in Social Work! Miigwetch for this financial support.



Shezell-Rae Sam

AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION

University of Victoria

Master of Arts in Child and Youth Care

My name is Shezell-Rae Sam (nee Samuel), I come from the Ahousaht First Nation; however, I have connections all through out the Nuuchah-nulth territory. I am a mother to five children and am completing my Masters in the school of Child & Youth Care at the University of Victoria. My goal has always been to serve our people. As a result, my plan is to develop a counselling practice and offer support and/or services to support our people.



Simone Compton

K'ÒMOKS FIRST NATION

University of Calgary

Master of Counselling

I am in my third and final year of the Masters of Counselling program at the University of Calgary, currently in the practicum portion of my studies; I am very excited to finally get to put all of my learning into practice. My passion is working with Indigenous children and youth, specifically in an urban environment, to build upon their resiliency and skills to foster positive, healthy strength, and change. My hope is to work as a counsellor within Indigenous communities on Vancouver Island to continue this healing journey for all us to reconnect to our culture and identities.



Susan Soloman

GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of Toronto

Master of Social Work

My name is Susan Soloman, I am a registered Indigenous member of the Gitksan First Nation. On a professional level, I have worked hard to obtain my Social Work degree which has led to my Aboriginal Liaison leadership role at the BC Women's and Children's Hospital. I take pride in my work in that I am able to assist Indigenous peoples from all over the Province while they are navigating through the medical system. I provide patients and families practical support and holistic wellness, and comfort them through difficult times with stress and illness which affects them and their loved ones.



Treena Decker

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

University of Victoria

Master of Social Work

I am a woman of mixed settler and Haida descent living, working and playing as a visitor on the traditional territory of the Allied Tribes of Metlakatla and Lax Kw'alaams in Prince Rupert, BC. I have been fortunate to witness stories of survival, resilience and healing within community development and social work for the past 18 years. Enhancing my knowledge provides more tools for walking beside those on their healing journeys. In 2016 I was given the traditional name of Yahlskaanii (The Big Auntie/Auntie who looks after everyone) by Margaret Adkins when I was adopted into the Raven Clan.



Suzanne Sterling-Bur

NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Studies

Sue Sterling-Bur is from the Dumdehmyoo (Bear) Clan of the Nadleh Whut'en Indian Band from the Carrier Sekani Nation and her father is from the Nlaka'pamux Nation, her mother is from the Sto:Lo Nation. She is the mother of five beautiful children Brittani, Darian, Spencer and twin boys, Emmett and Avery! Sue is currently in her first year of her PhD program at the University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus. Her doctoral research will be on the Indigenous belief of giftedness in relation to working with Indigenous children and youth with special needs.



William Rowluck

LYTTON FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy in Language and Literacy Education

My name is William Rowluck; I am a PhD student at the University of British Columbia in the department of Language and Literacy. I have worked in public education since 1996 as a Teacher's Assistant, Substitute Teacher, Adult Education Instructor, K-9 teacher, Principal and Researcher. As an Indigenous man and Teacher, I am drawn to strengthen family and community ties to children in classrooms. This starts with my grandparents, parents, wife Michelle, daughter Emma, and two sons Jude and Caleb. I enjoy hunting, playing piano, and drinking tea with all my relations in Nlaka'pamux territory and across Turtle Island. Kokstem



Teresa Morishita

MÉTIS

University of Calgary

Doctor of Philosophy in Community Rehabilitation & Disability Studies

Teresa Morishita is faculty in the Access Programs for People with Disabilities Department at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. She holds a Master of Education and is currently completing her PhD in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary with a Community Rehabilitation and Disabilities Studies specialization.



Adrienne Charlie
SQUAMISH NATION

Simon Fraser University
Squamish Language Program
 Sxélaltenaat Adrienne Charlie's lineage is comprised of Squamish and Stó:l? First Nations. Sxelaltenaat kwi kweshamin, Sxelaltenaat is her traditional name. She is the mother of three children; Alissa, Calvin, and Kaylana. Adrienne is currently enrolled in the Diploma in First Nations Language Proficiency Squamish Language Cohort. Adrienne plans to utilize what she has learned and share with the future generations of the Squamish Nation. Adrienne is very grateful for being selected for the second call bursary from the New Relationship Trust Foundation. Chen kwenmantumi



Alan Mack
UPPER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
Heavy Equipment Technician
 I found my love for mechanics at a young age while working in the garage with my dad and always knew I would follow this path. Throughout my elementary and high school years, looking back in yearbooks, it was always my goal to move away from home and become a Heavy Equipment Technician. Not only did I move and complete my goal of becoming a mechanic, I also got married and started a family. I have now been married for just over four years and have a wonderful little boy that just completes everything.



Aleah Brown
LYTTON FIRST NATION

Vancouver Community College
Baking and Pastry Arts - Artisan Baking
 I am from a small Nlaka'pamux community in the Fraser Valley and am currently in College for Baking and Pastry Arts. When I am done this program I will keep gaining hours and experience to get my Red Seal as soon as I can. Afterwards, I hope to own my own bakery that uses traditional Nlaka'pamux foods incorporated into classic bakery products. I really want to connect more with my culture and heritage and showcase what I learn in the future!



Ali Hunt
KWAKIUTL BAND COUNCIL

North Island College
Carpentry Foundation
 T'lakwet, or Ali Hunt, was born into a family rich in culture. She comes from the Kwakiutl and Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw tribes of Northern Vancouver Island. Ali has spent time working in adventure tourism, kayak guiding in her homelands, and working in aviation as an Aircraft Structures Technician. She has a passion for building and creating and is excited to explore the world of construction. Ali's goal is to become a Red Seal Certified Carpenter and to continue working and learning in the industry for a long time.



Alysha Antoine
SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

Native Education College
Aboriginal Early Childhood Education
 My name is Alysha Antoine. I am a single mother of three children. I am a member of the Saik'uz First Nation and also a part of the Grouse clan. I just completed my AECE through NEC. I went back to school so I could get a job close to home in order to support my family. I have got so much support from my band. I really appreciate being awarded the Second call bursary from NRTF, it will help me out so much! I really look forward to being an ECE in my community!



Andreika Hunt
KWAKIUTL BAND COUNCIL

North Island College
Office Assistant I - Applied Business Technology
 Gilakas'la! My name is Andreika Hunt. My goals are to obtain Office Management Certification and become a Supervisor in an office setting. I plan to achieve this by working on obtaining my Office Assistant Certificate, which is the first of three steps I need to complete. The next steps would be Administrative Assistant and then Office Management. I am excited and cannot wait to complete my educational journey. It really has been amazing to start this adventure and it has enabled me to role-model educational goal setting for my two young children.



Anna Harris
STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

**Vancouver Island University
 Applied Business Technology**
 Anna Harris is from the Stz'uminus First Nation territory. She comes from a blended family of seven sisters and one brother. She also has two daughters, and one stepson. Anna is currently taking the ten month Applied Business Technology Accounting Assistant program. Her influence was her late grandmother who worked in Finance for thirty years. When Anna has free time she likes to spend time with her family, go to her daughters school events, and community events. In the future, she would like to work with her grandfather who is developing his own business.



Anthony Gosnell
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
 GITLAXT'AAMIKS**

**Northwest Community College
 Heavy Duty Equipment Technician**
 I am from the Village of New Aiyansh, I reside in Terrace, BC. I have a loving Wife along with three boys. I am from the house of Duuk', my Tribe is Laxgibii (Wolf). I got my passion for Heavy Equipment from my Father and his Logging Business. I have always wanted to know how it operated which drove me to complete my first and second Year of Heavy Duty Mechanics and I will continue my education in this field. I plan on continuing until I have reached my Red Seal Heavy Duty Mechanic Ticket.



Ayesha Elliott
LAKE BABINE NATION

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Associate of Arts - General Arts**
 I am in my second year at NVIT taking the General Arts program. I plan on furthering my education to become an online business owner. With two children at home, I am so thankful for this opportunity! Education is really important. Thanks New Relationship Trust Foundation!



Bonnie Seward
TSAWOUT FIRST NATION

**University of Victoria
 Indigenous Language Revitalization**
 ÍY S?Á?EL SIAM NE S?ÁLE?E ?ELÁSTENOT ?E NE SNÁ. I chose to enter the program because I feel that bringing language back to life will help our communities heal from the negative effects of the residential school system and foster care system. Being able to connect language to everyday life will enhance our communities in their healing journey. My goal is to introduce my family to SENCOTEN and develop Youth and Survivors programs/ workshops in the SENCOTEN language.



Brannon Bell
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE
 COUNCIL**

**Northwest Community College
 Professional Cook Apprenticeship**
 My name is Brannon Bell, I'm from Old Massett and I'm a recent graduate who is eighteen years old. My goal for my education is to finish my first year of Culinary Arts and continue on to get Level 3 and get my Red Seal. When I finish getting my Red Seal I want to open my own little restaurant or food truck. I plan on coming back to Haida Gwaii and working at one of the restaurants on the island. If I don't come back to Haida Gwaii I plan on continuing on to Level 2 and 3.



Brenda Joseph
YEKOOCHÉ FIRST NATION

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Associate of Arts - First Nation Studies**
 My name is Brenda Joseph, I was born in Prince Rupert, BC on May 5, 1962. I was still a baby when I moved to Fort Saint James, BC, at five years old I moved to the reserve of Portage, BC. Not long after at the age of eight years old I was sent to Residential School in Lejac, BC. I lived there until the the age of fourteen. After that, I started a life of drinking due to the abuse that I suffered. I have now finished a successful first year at School. I'm ready for the next.



Brighton Campbell
SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS

Grande Prairie Regional College
Heavy Equipment Technician

I am a family-orientated man from Moberly Lake, BC and a member of Saulteau First Nations. I am twenty five years old. In 2016 I went back to school for Heavy Duty Mechanics and my goal is to obtain my Red Seal ticket. I decided to pursue a career as a skilled tradesperson because I wanted a steady, more reliable job and to be home more with my girlfriend and our two year old daughter. I enjoy the outdoors, hunting, fishing, hiking, snowboarding, and hockey. I am very grateful to have received this bursary from the New Relationship Trust Foundation.



Caleb Chanin
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Vancouver Island University
Information Technology and Applied Systems

My name is Caleb Chanin. I am a first year university student attending Vancouver Island University for the Information Technology and Applied Systems (ITAS) diploma program. This bursary money will help me get one step closer towards achieving my educational and career goals of learning to create games and other computer related opportunities like webpage creation/design. I love to play games during my free time and one day hope to create a game others will enjoy. Thank you for your support New Relationship Trust Foundation!



Charles Heit
GITXSAN FIRST NATION

Vancouver Community College
Jewellery Art and Design

My real name is Ya'Ya Xyadiit. In 1972 I started an apprenticeship with my uncle and chief Walter Harris OC that lasted about four years. We hunted and fished and carved together eight days a week. When I was old enough, I was put into K'san's 'Kitanmax School of Northwest Coast Indian Art'. When I graduated, they hired me to teach. I started selling my carvings in Prince Rupert and then I moved to Vancouver and sold everything I made. I have been in many books and covers. In 2015 I was awarded the BC Creative Achievement Award for First Nations Art!!!!



Cheyenne Fleming
LYTTON FIRST NATION

Douglas College
Academic Foundations

I am a nineteen year old Aboriginal girl currently attending Douglas College in New Westminster and will graduate in 2022 as a Social Worker. This has been a difficult road for me as I struggle with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, but I have learned to keep going despite my difficulties and I have been rewarded with many successes and achievements. I enjoy doing art and last fall I designed and painted the annual poster for National FASD Awareness Day.



Christa Prince
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

College of New Caledonia
Applied Business Technology - Administrative Assistant

I am thirty three years old and a mother of three beautiful children: Ryder (eight), Paisley (two), and Cashe (five months old). I come from Nak'azdli and I am Carrier First Nation. I chose to go back to school and further my education in the business field, I plan on getting a job in the office and figuring out where I want to further my education from there. I plan to continue raising my children in Fort St. James, BC.



Christina Roberts
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Langara College
Photography

Christina Roberts is a member of the Nisga'a Nation with a passion for photography. As an only child whose mother battled addiction, Christina has always used ingenuity to turn her adversity into strength and resilience, and now with this bursary, has the means to turn her dreams into a reality. She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to complete a Photography program at Langara College and begin a career in concert, portrait and landscape photography. She lives in the lower mainland and would like to reconnect with her Indigenous heritage through the lens of a camera one day.



Cynthia Gonu
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Rhodes Wellness College
Life Coach Diploma

My spirit name is Wolf Woman of Thunder, I am a descendant of Thunder Woman a Spiritual Healer, which means I am a helper-teacher. I learned about working with Energy and how this betters a person's life and to live in the light. Considering life and standards of education it is best to pursue a Life Coach Diploma Program and be open to all education matters that pertain to the mind and safety of the world. With the Life Coach Diploma Program we can incorporate Energy Work with life skills and the certification will open avenues for funding.



Dakota Jack
OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts - Criminology

My name is Dakota Jack and I am from the Syilx Nation of the Okanagan territory. In 2016, I started my education journey at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. I am in the Criminology program working towards an Associate of Arts degree. In addition to obtaining an Associates degree, I plan on working with the Federal Government one day as a future Law enforcement Officer or in Customs and Border protection Canada. I look forward to gaining employment upon my completion. I am honoured to be one of the recipients of the New Relationship Trust Foundation Bursary winners, thank you guys.



Deborah Peters
TS'KW'AYLAXW FIRST NATION

Mirage Spa Education Canada
Professional Nail Technician & Eyelash Extension Specialist

I have grown up in a small community most of my life and have planted roots here with our children. These courses, I am excited to take, give me training on how to set up and operate my own business which really got my attention. I look forward to furthering my education in the options of being a Spa Nail Tech as well as a Medical Nail Tech and serve the surrounding communities.



Denean Fred
SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Applied Business Technology

Uy Neytult: I am native to Snuneymuxw with strong roots from Tseshaht, Uchecklesah, and Tsimshian. My career goals include completing this ABT Program and gaining my certificate, learn to speak and write my native tongue (Hulquiminum) fluently, apply for my diploma in accounting, and eventually work towards a Certified Professional Accountant Degree. I want to finish what I start and create a great foundation for my son and myself. The help is out there I just need to Speak UP! Hychqa' Siem, Tee Tee Sul Wit



Edward Spencer
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Northwest Community College
First Nations Fine Arts

Edward comes from the Tsimshian community of Lax Kw'alaams and he belongs to the Killer Whale Clan. Edward will be completing his Advanced Diploma Year at Freida Deising and plans to get a Bachelors Degree at Emily Carr University in Vancouver. Edward donates his time and art to community causes. His specialty is paddle making with commissions already being made worldwide. He works mostly with aged yellow cedar milled by himself. He says, "It is an honour to be in such a prestigious school and to be taught by such well-renowned artists; Dempsey Bob, Stan Bevan, Ken McNeil, and Dean Heron."



Eric Jim
WITSET FIRST NATION

Northwest Community College
Electrical Foundation

My name is Eric Jim, I am of Wet'suwet'en descent from Witset (Moricetown). I am a single father of two boys, I wanted to show them that you cannot lose with education. I was a Youth Worker for eighteen years and decided that I needed a change. Becoming an Electrician is a trade that I really feel I'm in my element. My community does not have a certified Electrician and becoming a Red Seal is my goal. I do plan on starting a company that will also help the people in my community who want to get into this field.



Erika Ducharme
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Northwest Community College
Business Administration

My name is Erika Ducharme. I am from Lax Kw'alaams, BC. Currently, I'm halfway into the first year of my Business Administration program. My goal is to obtain a Bachelors degree in Accounting. While attending class full-time and maintaining a part-time job, I still find time to play my tuba (of which I've been playing for 10 years) as a member of the Terrace Community Band. I've always been interested in travelling to New Zealand, my dream is to study abroad in the near future!



Ezra Mecham
NUXALK NATION

Selkirk College
Forest Technology

First and foremost, my goal is to represent my Nation the best I can and this means modelling good behaviour, doing good in school, and pursuing a meaningful career. For the end goal of my career, I wish to start an Environmental Management sector within my Band office that manages our forests, wildlife, recreation, and environmental planning for our traditional territory. I believe that, as the stewards of the land, First Nations people have an obligation to have a key role in our environment.



Gavin Hunt
KWAKIUTL BAND COUNCIL

Vancouver Island University
Carpentry Apprenticeship

Hi, I am Gavin Hunt. I have spent the last seven years as a Carpenter in Nanaimo. I have been lucky enough to spend most of my apprenticeship at one company. My favourite area of carpentry is timber framing, but I do like the other areas too. My future goal is to have a family-owned business involved in all areas of construction.



Everett Nicholas
UPPER NICOLA BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Electrician Pre-Apprenticeship

Everett Nicholas is from Upper Nicola Band and the Okanagan and Ktunaxa Nations. His parents are Collette Sunday and Shawn Nicholas. Everett completed high school in 2017 and within a year was interested in seeking a career as an Electrician.



Gail Pierro
BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Environmental Resources Technology

I am a member of the Bonaparte Indian Band of the Shuswap Nation. I am a mother of three and a grandmother. Having left school at an early age, I returned and graduated from Grade 12 at the age of forty eight. While working in the Natural Resources Department at the Bonaparte Indian band, I was introduced to the Environmental Resource Program through a series of remotely delivered courses. I decided to pursue a diploma in Environmental Resource Technology in 2017, I am currently in the second year of the program and would like to carry on to a degree in Natural Resources.



Glory Holt
STSWECEM'c XGAT'TEM
FIRST NATION

Thompson Rivers University
Welding Foundations

My name is Glory Peaches Holt, I am a member of Stswecem'c Xgat'tem, Canoe Creek Band. I have recently discovered a passion for welding during a Women in Trades sampler program. I began school at Thompson Rivers University on July 30, 2018 to work towards my first year of a Welding Foundations certificate. In my future endeavours I hope to become a certified Red Seal Welder. I am very thankful for all the support I receive.



Grace Wells
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

**Blanche Macdonald Centre
 Professional Hairstyling Foundations**
 Hello, my name is Grace Wells and I am Tsimshian from Lax Kw'alaams, BC. I've recently finished the Pro Hair Program at Blanche Macdonald where I was fully trained to do my passion in life. I finished the program with a 93% average and received the Highest Academic award! I'm very proud of what I've accomplished and look forward to what is to come. All of this would not have been possible without the support from NRTF as well as from my friends and family.



Hannah Jones
LIL'WAT NATION

**Toronto Film School
 Film Production**
 I am from the Lil'wat Nation and dedicated to achieving my career goal to become a Filmmaker. I will be attending Toronto Film School and traveling from British Columbia. I am not receiving funding from my Band as they do not fund private schools. I feel honoured to receive this bursary. Once I graduate from TFS I plan to attend Business School to be able to create my own Film Production Company. I thank the people at NRTF for accepting my application.



Hannah Parnell
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

**Douglas College
 General Studies**
 My career goal is to become a Teacher at Chief Matthews and going to Douglas College is the first step to becoming one. Once I am done getting my BEd, I want to go back to Haida Gwaii to hopefully teach in one of their schools. My mother is a Teacher at Chief Matthews and one day I hope I will be too.



Hayden Jeffrey
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

**British Columbia Institute of Technology
 Nautical Sciences**
 My name is Hayden Jeffrey and I am a proud member of Lax Kw'alaams First Nation. I am currently in the second year of my program. My goal is to eventually become a Captain on a ship on the BC Coast. After I complete my program, which is four years long, I will receive much of the certifications I need to achieve my goal. I would like to thank NRTF for helping me reach my goals.



Harriet A. Murphy
TL'ETINQOX-T'IN GOVERNMENT

**British Columbia Institute of Technology
 Business Administration**
 My name is Harriet Murphy (Palma), I am Tsilhqot'in from northern BC. I am the owner of Healing Journey to Wellness Counselling Services in Vancouver, BC. I am a Registered Clinical counsellor with a Masters in Counselling Psychology, Bachelor of Social Work from UBC, and a Certificate in Family and Community Counselling from the Native Education College. I enrolled in the Business Administration program at BCIT to further my business knowledge and skills. I want to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for supporting me and express my gratitude for all the good work the NRTF does in the community.



Isaac Etzerza
TAHLTAN BAND

**UA Piping Industry College of
 British Columbia
 Plumbing Level 2**
 Isaac Etzerza is an aspiring Entrepreneur who is starting a trade as a Plumber. He started a Heavy Equipment company called Zig Zag Construction in 2012. The company was forced to shut down in 2014 because of the lack of work. He then set his sights on becoming a Plumber. With the completion of his Plumbing ticket he is planning on starting a company in the plumbing industry. When he is not working on his new career he spends his time with his family. He is currently working in Burnaby for Robin Mechanical as a Second year Apprentice Plumber.



Jamie Nole

ISKUT BAND COUNCIL

**Northwest Community College
First Nations Fine Arts**

Jamie Nole is from the Tahltan and Nisga'a Nations, and currently resides in Terrace, BC. In 2015, Jamie enrolled in a Fine Arts program to follow her dream to be a Professional Artist. While attending the course, she was instructed and mentored by world renowned artists; Dempsey Bob, Stan Bevan, Ken McNeil, and Dean Heron. She received many scholarships and awards including the BC Arts Council Scholarship Award, and is a two-time winner of YVR's Art Scholarship. Today, she maintains a website called injane.com and continues to carve with mentors during her third year of college at the Freda Diesing School.



Jarrod Thompson

SEABIRD ISLAND BAND

**University of the Fraser Valley
Heavy Mechanical Foundation**

My name is Jarrod Thompson and I was born and raised on Seabird Island, we are Sto:lo, People of the River. The Fraser River plays a major role in my family's culture and livelihood. Our family is strong in traditional ways. Every year we go hunting and fishing at our traditional fish camp. I have three children, ages twelve, four, and a newborn, and also a lovely common-law wife named Megan. I am currently studying Heavy Mechanical Foundations at UFV in Chilliwack. I am thankful for NRTF's Trades bursary and can't wait to embark on a new career once I graduate.



Jade Watts
GITWANGAK BAND

Vancouver Film School
Acting Essentials

I am a very outgoing, independent, and goal-oriented person. I love to sing, dance, and act and I am currently attending Film School to further pursue my dream to do all three for the rest of my career life. I've known that I have wanted to be on the artistic path since I was very young and I am so happy that I am now another step closer to making that a reality.



Jewel Hillis
GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

Vancouver Island University
Professional Esthetics

My name is Jewel Hillis. I am Gitksan from the Gitanmaax Band. I currently live in Kispiox, BC with my Aunt Merci Harris. I graduated from Hazelton Secondary School in 2018. I will be attending Vancouver Island University's Professional Esthetics Program this fall. I love to play volleyball, I was Captain of my Senior High School team and won an All Star award this past year. I want to give back to the community that has raised me. I have a large and loving family and connections with them are very important to me. Thank you!



Josephine Louie
STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

Native Education & Training College of Business, Healthcare, Human Service & Technology

Education Director Management

My name is Josephine Mabel Louie, I am from Stz'uminus First Nation. I am the proud mother of two children and also have one grandchild. Employment and education is a key element to who I am, I'm striving to work for First Nations Organizations in service delivery of Employment and Education Programs. My education goal is to complete the Education Director Program. My ultimate employment goal is to attain a Management position at a First Nations Organization in the Education Field.



Justina Seymour
TSARTLIP FIRST NATION

University of Victoria

Indigenous Language Revitalization

My name is TASENOT, my english name is Justina Seymour. I am Coast Salish from the Tsartlip First Nation. I am taking part in the third program of revitalization for our SENCOTEN language. With completion of this program I can become a Culture or Language Teacher. Our school is becoming immersed. I am proud to say that I am a part of a large move for our people and look forward to sharing our language.



Kari Morgan
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW

Northwest Community College
First Nations Fine Arts

Morgan is from Northwest BC, her background is Nisga'a from the house of Gwisk'aayn, European, and also Metis ancestry. Morgan has been creating art using different mediums since her early childhood and has displayed artwork in various galleries. Currently enrolled in the Advanced Diploma at The Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art, Morgan works to incorporate her knowledge of her traditional Fine Arts with the other mediums she is quite familiar with. She aims to bring her cultural background into her future pieces to display the strengths of her past, her family's past, and the past of her ancestors.



Kailynn Pelletier
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Accounting

Kailynn Pelletier is an Accounting student at BCIT. Kailynn's career goal is to obtain a Bachelors degree in Accounting and become a CPA. She hopes to achieve this within the next two years.



I am thankful for NRTF's Trades bursary and can't wait to embark on a new career once I graduate.

– JARROD THOMPSON



Karly Morgan
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

**Kwantlen Polytechnic University
NGO and Non-profit Studies**

I will be returning to school at the age of thirty to pursue this certificate and plan to use these credentials to continue on to a Bachelor of Social Work. From personal lived experiences, my passion lies in working with those affected by trauma, mental health issues, and addictions. I aspire to instill hope and promote health and wellness within my Indigenous community. I already have a wealth of experience in the field through Outreach Work, Naloxone training facilitation, and volunteering with Nightlife and Festival health initiatives. I look forward to furthering my education.



Kathleen Davidson
BOOTHROYD INDIAN BAND

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Environmental Resources Technology**

I am from the small community of Boston Bar where I grew up in my traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux Nation. I have recently completed my first year at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Merritt in the Environmental Resources Technology Diploma Program. My hope for the future is to continue my educational journey to obtain a degree in Natural Resources. Then I would like to do studies on fish, wildlife or water to track the changes we are currently seeing while applying First Nation practices to those studies.



From personal lived experiences, my passion lies in working with those affected by trauma, mental health issues, and addictions. I aspire to instill hope and promote health and wellness within my Indigenous community.

- KARLY MORGAN



Katerina Stewart
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
GITLAXT'AAMIKS**

**Algonquin College
Business Administration**

My name is Katerina Stewart, I hail from Gitlaxt'aamiks and currently reside in Toronto, ON. My personal goals are to travel to as many places as I can and to continue to expand my knowledge about my Culture. My career goals are to finish my studies and achieve a degree in HR Management and start my next journey in that field.



Katie Gray
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

**Langara College
Arts and Science (Commerce)**

My name is Katie Gray and I currently enrolled at Langara College in the Associate of Arts Commerce Diploma Program. I plan on transferring to a university for my third year to get a Bachelor of Commerce Degree. My personal goals revolve around maintaining mental, emotional, physical and spiritual health. I live for new experiences, travelling, snowboarding and meeting new people. I plan on giving back to the Indigenous community with my education.



Kellie Louie
**STSWECM'C XGAT'TEM
FIRST NATION**

**Okanagan College
Business Administration**

Weyt-kp Kellie Louie was born and raised in Stswecem'c Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek BC). Kellie chose to return to school to pursue her Business Administration Diploma through Okanagan College after years of being in the workforce. She is the single mother of two daughters and raising three nieces and a nephew. Kellie has a strong family connection to the land, culture and traditions. When Kellie is not studying she enjoys, hunting, fishing, Hockey, Pow-wows and most sports. Kellie's goal after receiving her diploma is to return to the workforce.



Khaila Duncan-Burke
WE WAI KAI FIRST NATION

Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
Associate of Arts - Apparel Industry Management

I am a proud member of the We Wai Kai First Nation. I will be attending my first year at FIDM in the fall of 2018 to help me achieve my dreams and aspirations of having a career in the Fashion Industry. After the AA degree is completed, I plan on continuing my education at FIDM in the Bachelor of Science Business Management program, and then eventually the Business Administration Masters program. My goal is to one day open my own business but I am excited to learn about more opportunities that post-secondary education will provide.



Kristie Bevan
KITSELAS FIRST NATION

Blanche Macdonald Centre
Professional Hairstyling Foundations

I currently live in Burnaby, BC and came to the city to pursue my dreams and achieve some goals such as getting my Diploma in Professional Hair Design at the number one hair school in Canada, Blanche Macdonald. My long term goal is to one day have my own Salon. I went to school for business at the Northwest Community College in Terrace, BC and took courses like accounting, marketing, and entrepreneurship.



Laurie Sampare
GITWANGAK BAND

Northwest Community College
Professional Cook Apprenticeship

In the PC1 course, I hope to be able to build my knowledge on how to prepare and serve food, as well as learn the rich culture that's intertwined with it. My goal at the end of my PC1 course (besides continue on with the second and third year), is to be able to travel and to cook and to TASTE dishes across Canada as well as around the world.



Kimberly McRae
UPPER NICOLA BAND

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Administrative Studies

Hi, my name is Kimberly McRae, I'm thirty two years young. My parents are Charlotte and Maynard McRae. I am an Upper Nicola Band Member from Douglas Lake, BC. I have three beautiful children, Brayden, Jaxson, and Zoe. My personal goals are to better myself, mentally, physically, and emotionally. My career goals are to own my own Bakery & Coffee shop and employ Special Needs adults.



Laura Beaton
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Lethbridge College
Renewable Resource Management

My name is Laura Beaton and I am from Skidegate Village on the north coast. I am studying RRM because I am interested in bringing positive change to the environment in the years to come. I feel all First Nations peoples are stewards of the land and we are here to protect and ensure future generations can enjoy what we are enjoying now. I will be entering my second year at Lethbridge College, I will complete the diploma program in April 2019!



Lillian McKay
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Northwest Community College
First Nations Fine Arts

My Name is Lillian McKay. My grandparents are the late Lillian Stanley and the late Murphy Stanley. My grandfather is recognized as a Master Carver. I come from Gingolx, also known as Kincolith, of the Nisga'a Nation. My Nisga'a name is Gitwiltgum Hanak which means Warrior Woman. I'm from the Giska'aast or Killer whale tribe. I'm from Wilp Niis Yuus which is the House of the Slave Owner.



Lyle Williams
SQUAMISH NATION

**British Columbia Institute of Technology
 Ironworker Generalist**

I am a member of the Squamish Nation and grew up on the north shore. I have been an Iron Worker for four years and just completed my first year at BCIT with two more levels to go. I am also an artist in my spare time doing projects with yellow cedar, like carvings such as masks and big plaques. I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for the bursary, it really helps with the financial stress of being a student, thank you NRTF.



Lynzee West
GITXSAN FIRST NATION

**Northwest Community College
 University Credit**

My name is Lynzee West. I am from the Gitksan and Haisla Nations in Northwest, BC. I am the mother of three and continually working towards a better life for my family. I have completed my Business Administration Certificate and this year I am finishing my last year of the University Transfer Program at NWCC. Next year I plan to enter the Bachelor of Education Program at UNBC. I am looking forward to giving back to my community through teaching. My long term goal is to obtain a Masters in Counselling.



Magdalene Korolyk
TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION

**John Casablancas Institute
 Body Spa Esthetics**

I am the single mother of a daughter. She is my inspiration to create a better and positive lifestyle which I've always found in this industry. My short term goal is to complete all the education I need to accomplish my long term goal, which is to open a resort in my community that will bring revenue to my community. After, I would like to then open my own Salon/Day Spa in the city.



Marcus Reid
HEILTSUK NATION

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Associate of Arts - First Nation Studies**

Marcus was born and raised in Metro Vancouver. He has a passion for social justice and education. Throughout his post-secondary journey he has focused on LGBTQ+ Indigenous and Women's rights. This year he will be finishing his Associates Degree in First Nation Studies. After completion, he's hoping to be accepted into the Bachelor of Education at UBC where he can continue making a positive contribution to the community while studying through Indigenous pedagogy. Once near the time of completing a Bachelors credential Marcus will also consider a Masters of Education and possibly a Doctorate. Stay tuned!



Maureen Morven
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF
 GITLAXT'AAMIKS**

**Rhodes Wellness College
 Life Coach Diploma**

My name is Maureen Morven, I am Lightning Woman, daughter of Thunder Woman. I was born into the Nisga'a Nation for the sole purpose of being a helper to the Creator and Mankind. Part of this journey has been training with two Shamans for eighteen years and promising not to let these teachings be forgotten, to carry out the intended plans of both teachers. Although we understand that this training is by far the more advanced, we have been taught to adapt to the here and now where paper certification is the only accepted accreditation. This is our intended goal.



Mark Lamont
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

**Camosun College
 Nautical Training**

I've been working hard with school these past years. When I complete this program I will get a Transport Canada Watchkeeping Mate Near coastal certificate. I plan to complete it by June 2019. I will then look at applying for jobs as a Mate with BC Ferries in a smaller northern community. Getting this certificate will open the doors for a wide variety of career opportunities in the future.



Michael Henry
PAUQUACHIN FIRST NATION

University of Victoria
Indigenous Language Revitalization
 My name is Michael Henry, I am from Pauquachin First Nation on south Vancouver Island. I am the father of five beautiful children, three sons and two daughters. Recently, I chose to go back to school at UVIC to start my educational journey. I am blessed to be a part of the third Language Revitalization Program. I plan to continue my educational journey to get a degree so that I can teach my language. ÍY S?A?EL SIAM NE S?ÁLE?E TÁU,WEL?EW?TEN T?E NE SNÁ. CSE LÁ,E SEN ET BO?EN?EN. IYES SEN ?NES Á?E. I TOTELNEW? SEN T?E NE S?ÁL. HÍSW?KE SIAM



Mychaela Ketlo
NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION

Olds College
Farrier Science
 I am 19 years old and I was born in Vanderhoof, BC on a farm. I've been riding horses since I was four years old. I grew up in a farming community with cattle, crops, and equine breeds. I've always worked hard for my accomplishments such as graduating high school, winning my first Farrier competition (Olds Classic), as well as winning high point over all in Gymkhana. I am now currently enrolled at Olds college in the Farrier science program and hope to graduate one day and obtain a working apprenticeship, then evolve and run my own Farrier company in my hometown.



Nathan Joe
SQUAMISH NATION

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Ironworker Generalist
 I am a proud Squamish Nation Member and the father of four children. I completed my first year at BCIT as an Ironworker Generalist. I plan on getting my Red Seal in the next couple of years. Also, I hope to have my own Aboriginal Rebar Company. One day, I hope to mentor young workers and encourage them to learn a trade.



Morgan Sampare
GITXSAN FIRST NATION

Northwest Community College
Automotive Service Technician
 Morgan Sampare is a student at the Coast Mountain College (formally known as Northwest Community College). Her goal this 2018-19 college year is to complete her thirty one week program and begin as an Automotive Service Technician Apprentice. After that, she may continue on with her schooling into the second year of Automotive or pursue her passion in art.



Myles Neufeld
SKETCHESTN INDIAN BAND

Langara College
Associate of Arts Degree in Creative Writing
 My name is Myles Theodore Carter Neufeld and I am an author, but first and foremost I am a transgender person of colour from the Skeetchestn Indian Band. For my entire life I have been trying to break free from those titles but now that I'm older I realize what a privilege it is to have them. I am a proud resident of Vancouver, BC and am getting my Associate of Arts Degree in Creative Writing at Langara College. I have been published multiple times for my short stories and poetry and am currently working on publishing a novel.



Neil Louie
NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION

University of the Fraser Valley
Liberal Arts
 I am the father of four and raising my family with my partner in the Lower Mainland of BC. I decided to come back to school and further my education in hopes of becoming a Lawyer. I also want to be a role model for my older children who are approaching the age where they need to start thinking about post-secondary education.



Thank you to the New Relationship Trust Foundation and sponsors for supporting me with my education.

– OLIVIA PALMA



Olivia Palma
TL'ETINQOX-T'IN
GOVERNMENT

Vancouver Community College
Legal Administrative Assistant

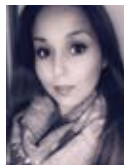
My name is Olivia Palma, I am twenty three years old. I am from the Tsilhqot'in Nation (Tl'etinqox). Over the years I have worked in the business sector focusing mainly in sales, service, marketing, and management. My goal is to further my legal business administration skills and eventually obtain a degree. I am enthusiastic about school and really enjoy learning. I am very grateful for this bursary because it will allow me to continue in my education in a confident and secure way. Thank you to the New Relationship Trust Foundation and sponsors for supporting me with my education. Thank you.



Raven LeBlanc
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Native Education College
Northwest Coast Jewellery Arts

Raven LeBlanc is from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii and is of the Naa Saagaas X?aaydaGaay Eagle clan. Raven got her beginnings in Haida art working under Robin Rorick and Ben Davidson after graduating from high school in 2009. For her post-secondary education she attended Emily Carr University of Art & Design and Freda Diesing School of Northwest Art. She has also worked at Haida Gwaii Museum and enjoys learning about her culture and sharing it with others. She is also passionate about animation and illustrates cartoons in her free time.



Pauline Hunt
HEILTSUK NATION

Vancouver Island University
Hairstylist Foundation

My name is Pauline Hunt, I have four beautiful children and I decided to make a big change in my life in order to better my and my children's lives. It has been a struggle moving away from my family and my hometown, however I do hope to continue on doing a few more courses and am in hopes to one day have my own Salon. I am loving the opportunity that I have to make this move for myself. I was very emotional when I found out I got accepted into this course and the first person I called to share the good news with was my stepfather. As old as I am he was very proud of me and he even cried as I was crying with joy.



Rhoda Dick
LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

Thompson Rivers University
Accounting Technician

This is Rhoda Dick of the Nlaka'pamux Nation of Merritt, BC. She has done beading as a hobby since she was eight years old. One of her main goals is to complete the Accounting Technician Diploma and possibly branch off into a six year program. For now, she is in the first year of the Accounting Technician Diploma at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC. She volunteered at the Gathering Place of Thompson Rivers University, helping out at a graduation of students that finished their programs.



I was very emotional when I found out I got accepted into this course and the first person I called to share the good news with was my stepfather. As old as I am he was very proud of me and he even cried as I was crying with joy.

– PAULINE HUNT



Reba Ladron De Guevara
WESTBANK FIRST NATION

**Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts
 Culinary/Baking & Pastry Arts**

My name is Reba De Guevara and I am from the Syilx Nation located in the southern interior of BC. I am very passionate about food and am thrilled to be enrolled in the dual-diploma program at the Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts in Vancouver. With this training, I hope to refine my skills as an aspiring chef and broaden my horizons in regards to the different avenues one can take in the Food and Hospitality Industry. With this knowledge and previous schooling, my goal is to champion issues pertaining specifically to Indigenous Food Sovereignty within the industry and beyond.



Robert Cootes
UCHUCKLESAHT TRIBE

**Seabird Island College
 Heavy Equipment Operator**

I'm Robert Cootes and I'm a Coastal First Nations member from the Uchucklesaht Tribe, Maa Nulth Treaty Nation on Vancouver Island outside of Port Alberni. I am a Forestry Worker currently residing on Seabird Island. I have enjoyed working in the Forest Industry but needed to diversify my skills and certifications. I am very appreciative to the NRT Foundation and Seabird College for all the support. It has greatly assisted me in completing this diversified training. Now having successfully completed this training, I believe I will be able to achieve sustained full-time employment in the Forestry and Construction Industries.



Samantha West
TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION

**Vancouver Island University
 First Nations Housing Manager**

My name is Samantha West, I am thirty one years old and the single parent of a twelve year old. I am in Likh Tsa Mis' yu clan (Beaver clan). I am a full-time employee along with the online classes from a First Nations Housing Management course, I am currently in my third module. I am also enrolled in an academic course in the evenings as well. I sit on the Education Committee and volunteer to fundraise for our community school. I live in an isolated community named Takla Landing which is three hours north from Fort St. James. Mussi' Cho Samantha West



Samuel Ketlo
**NADLEH WHUT'EN
 FIRST NATION**

**College of New Caledonia
 Automotive Service Technician**

I am from Nadleh Whut'en, BC. I was born in Edmonton, AB and have lived in Nadleh most of my life. I enjoy sports and music, as well as working on vehicles, which is what drove me to the trade I am now taking at the College of New Caledonia. I'm eighteen years old and graduated in Fraser Lake, BC. I feel there are many doors opened as a Mechanic and endless job opportunities. My goal is to finish all four years of my post-secondary and become a Red Seal Mechanic.



Samuel Burger
TAHLTAN BAND

**Northwest Community College
 Associate of Science**

My name is Samuel Burger, I am of Tahltan descent. I am studying science in the pursuit of my goal to become a Wildlife Officer/ Steward of the Tahltan nation. My childhood was spent going on hunting trips with my dad and learning about the traditions and beliefs of the Tahltan people. Going hunting and fishing while growing up has since fostered a keen interest in the Earth's natural processes. I love the outdoors as well as science and am very excited for my future career.



Savanna Sandy
TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWPEMC

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
 Associate of Arts**

My name is Savanna Sandy, I am a member of the Secwepemc Nation. For the past ten years I have worked as a Cook in restaurants all across the Metro Vancouver area. During my free time I have been involved in various volunteer projects as well as make bannock at the Powwow nights at the Vancouver Friendship Center. This year, I decided to continue my educational journey by pursuing a Degree in the Associative Arts which will be followed by the Bachelor of Social Work Program at NVIT. My goal is to be apart of great change within my community and for our people.



Rachel Atleo

SONGHEES FIRST NATION

University of Victoria

Indigenous Language Revitalization

I am a member of the Songhees First Nation. I am extremely grateful for this bursary that supports me to move forward with the SEN?O?EN language. I understand that this is the closest linguistic match for the Lekwungen language which I hope can be offered in the future at UVic. Three years ago, I completed a course but it wasn't my passion; it was not my future. Becoming a future language speaker will tie me to the history and the land, to the culture and the future of the people of Songhees. It is important to preserve my language.



Shirley Apsassin

BLUEBERRY RIVER FIRST NATIONS

Medicine Hat College

Steamfitter/Pipefitter

I am a Blueberry River First Nations member working toward my goal as a Red Seal ticketed Journeywoman Steamfitter/Pipefitter. Thank you NRTF for the much needed financial support to help complete my first year of training. I have four years of experience. Being a woman in this field has taught me internal strength, unconditional tolerance in a male dominated work environment, strengthened my body, and shown me my capabilities as a First Nations woman. I truly enjoy working with my hands and body strength. I love creating and repairing. I would like to be part of the Pipefitters installing the Coastal GasLink pipeline to Kitimat.



Sarah Lambie-Webb
H AISLA NATION

Vancouver Community College
Baking and Pastry Arts - Artisan Baking
 My personal goals are to be a confident female within the workforce. My career goal is to start my own Bakery by making artisan baked goods with a rustic look and unique flavor, I always loved baking. When I graduated high school I wanted to attend a baking college. Vancouver Community College is a nice close college where I have taken a Pastries and Design course and now am in Artisan Baking. Taking these courses is helping me in both my personal and career goals. By continuing on with my studies I will be proceeding towards receiving my Red Seal as a Baker.



Sheena Watts
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Northwest Community College
Associate of Arts - First Nations Specialization
 My name is Sheena Watts, I am thirty five years old and part of the Nisga'a Nation. Getting an Associates Degree in the First Nations Specialization is such an amazing stepping stone for my career choice, which is to work with Aboriginal youth whether it be in the school system or as a Youth Support worker. I have been very determined throughout my years of making this goal attainable and am so proud to have the opportunity to make my dreams a reality.



Shelley Ferguson
QAYQAYT FIRST NATION

Capilano University
Associate of Arts
 Shelley Ferguson is a member of the Qayqayt Nation (New Westminster Indian Band). She obtained her Health Care Certificate at Native Education College in 2011 and Palliative Care Certificate in 2013. Shelley is a current student at Capilano University and is aiming for a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in First Nations studies. She is a peer mentor for Indigenous students and likes to volunteer at school. One of her favourite hobbies is beading and she facilitated beading workshops at Capilano University this past term.



Shelley Wilson
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS

Justice Institute of British Columbia
Emergency Management
 My name is Shelley Wilson, I am from the Ganada Tribe and reside in Gitlaxt'aamiks. I started working for the Nisga'a Nation in 2008. One of things that sparked my interest was the Emergency Management Certificate Program at JIBC. I have been working hard towards completing this program and will receive my Certificate in February 2019. I have been working on completing a Certificate for Nisga'a Studies with WWNI as well. My Emergency Management training will help our nation during a disaster if any were to occur, I'd like to see our Nisga'a Nation be resilient and prepared in advance.



Simon Gurney
HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS

Camosun College
Plumbing & Pipe Trades Foundation
 My name is Simon Gurney and I am from the HUU-ay-aht First Nation. I am pursuing a career in Plumbing. I have completed two of four levels so far on my journey and one day will become a Red Seal Journeyman Plumber. I know there will be unlimited work (water works) ahead and that I can work anywhere in Canada and even in all parts of the world. I will be working with my Nation and helping them with building a Liquefied Natural Gas Facility along with homes for our people so we all can move back. One day I might have my own Plumbing Business!



I will be working with my Nation and helping them with building a Liquefied Natural Gas Facility along with homes for our people so we all can move back. One day I might have my own Plumbing Business!

- SIMON GURNEY



Standish Martin

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

**British Columbia Institute of Technology
Ironworker Generalist**

Standish is a single mother of three girls who is trying to teach them that women can do anything they want to, if they set their mind to it. She started with the Bladerunners program almost two years ago and found a trade she loves. When she switched to the Ironworkers Union they encouraged her to get training to further her career. When she isn't working she takes part in cultural dancing and language classes with her children.



Ten Morigeau

?AQ?AM (ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND)

**College of the Rockies
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician**

My name is Ten Morigeau, I am a Ktunaxa Nation Member. I finished my first year Heavy Duty Equipment Tech Program at the College of the Rockies in early 2018. My long term goal is to finish the program I am currently taking and continue working with the company that took me on as an Apprentice. I live and work in the Cranbrook area. I would like to stay in the area and raise my family here.



Tori Hunter

TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWPEMC

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts - Criminology**

My name is Tori Hunter, I am a First Nations woman from Bonaparte, BC. I am the single mom of a six year old boy, my goals are to finish my Associate of Arts degree and continue onto a Bachelor of Criminology at SFU. I plan to get my Law degree and help youth in the Criminal Justice System.



Steven Sam

NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

**College of New Caledonia
Welding Foundation**

Hadih, my name is Steven Sam and I am one of the recipients of the NRTF Bursaries. I am Carrier First Nations from the Nak'azdli Whut'en in Fort St. James, BC. I belong to the Lusilyoo (frog) clan. I have many lifelong goals including being a role-model to the younger generation. My educational goals include achieving a Level 1 Welding certificate after my first year. I then plan to build on this certificate to achieve my Red Seal. I have recognized that I am successful at hands-on work. Therefore, I believe that I will succeed in a trades program.



Theresa Morris

WITSET FIRST NATION

**Langara College
Professional Bookkeeper**

My name is Theresa Morris and I am from Witset First Nation and Binche Whuten. I am taking Professional Bookkeeping and Advanced Administration at Langara College. I plan on getting a degree in Accounting after some substantial senior office experience. I also plan on having my own business for bookkeeping.



Tyler Antoine

BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND

**Thompson Rivers University
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician**

I am a second generation mechanic and have inherited my grandfather's thousand piece tool set that he had used for more than thirty years at the nearby Copper Mine in Ashcroft. My father's father was one of twenty two children and he worked as a Millwright for thirty five years at the same Copper Mine in Ashcroft. I am very excited to represent my First Nation in this very strong industry and to run my own business one day. To continue on with the same wrenches as grandfather. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to begin my career.



I am very excited to represent my First Nation in this very strong industry and to run my own business one day.

- TYLER ANTOINE



Teresa Daly

TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWEPEMC

Capilano University

Lil'wat Nation Language and Culture

Terry is dedicated and committed to supporting children, youth and families in a community health role as a Mental Wellness Clinician. Terry has experience working with Indigenous peoples in both urban/ rural settings in Vancouver and BC, in schools and community. She holds an Indigenous-informed BSW with a Child Welfare from NVIT and TRU. Terry recently completed the Indigenous Focus Oriented Therapy and Critical Trauma Program and is working on the Expressive Play Therapy Program with the JIBC. Terry believes in supporting our future generations and is a research assistant on Indigenous Wellness studies with national, regional and local programs.



Wilfredo Harris

MAMALILIKULLA FIRST NATION

Camosun College

Digital Production, Writing and Design

I was born on Oct 29, 2000, at 3lbs 5oz, 15.5 inches tall, and two months early. By December 22nd 2000, I gained enough weight and strength to go home. I started Songhees Preschool at the age of four. I went to Craigflower Elementary School in Victoria, BC from ages five to ten. From ages eleven to thirteen I attended Shoreline Middle school in Victoria, BC. At age twelve I received my Kwakwaka'wakw Name at a potlatch. From 2014 - 2018 I attended Esquimalt High School and during the summer break of 2017 I attended a Graphic Design Program. In June 2018, I graduated from Esquimalt High School. Since September 2018, I have been in the Camosun College Digital Production course.



Victor Gentile
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX
 UA Piping Industry College of
 British Columbia
 Steamfitting Level 3

My name is Victor Gentile, I started Pipefitting right out of high school by taking a Pre-apprenticeship course and instantly fell in love with the trade. I'm currently working on getting my Journeyman's ticket and Red Seal. I've worked all over the Province of BC and have been very fortunate to have consistent work and have been able to work at some very highly sought after jobs. My future plans would be to work in Canada with long-term employment or else I would love to work abroad in Australia for a few years.



I am very honoured to be chosen as an award recipient and grateful for your continued support throughout my educational journey.

– ZACHARY MUNROE



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

My name is Zachary Munroe, I'm a proud member of the Nisga'a Nation and a community member of Gitlaxt'aamiks. My career goal is to hold a Recreation Management Baccalaureate degree, which I'm currently working towards. This program will allow me to move back to my traditional territory and implement the structure needed to carry out the disciplines that sport, recreation, and leisure can bring to community members and most importantly, implant seeds in the youth of our Nation. I am very honoured to be chosen as an award recipient and grateful for your continued support throughout my educational journey.

NRTF | SCHOLARSHIP - UNDERGRADUATE



Alexander Mounsey
SIMPCW FIRST NATION
 University of British Columbia
 Bachelor of Commerce

Hi, I am Alex and I'm currently attending my fourth year at UBC in Business Commerce specializing in Real Estate Development. I have been really interested in this area since I was little having to sit with my mom through hours of HGTV when I was younger. I currently work for the CRA in the Criminal Investigations Division and have really enjoyed my time there thus far. In my free time I enjoy road biking, squash, golf and would never pass up an opportunity for sushi. Thank you for supporting Indigenous education!



Brandon McReynolds
SQUAMISH NATION
 University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
 Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Brandon McReynolds and my career goals are to succeed with my hockey and academics. I continue to train hard on and off the ice to be the best that I can be. I put a lot of emphasis on my academics so that one day I can own my own business. My Business Management degree will allow me to succeed once my hockey career has come to an end.



Carey McReynolds
SQUAMISH NATION

Simon Fraser University
Professional Development Program -
Concentration in Elementary

My ancestral name is Susulat, my name is Carey, and I am from the Squamish Nation. My goals are to teach the Squamish Nation Language in schools and work in Special Education. I am currently in the teaching program at SFU working towards becoming a Certified Teacher and then will continue into a Masters Program as a School Counsellor. I was in the first cohort of the Squamish Language Immersion program at SFU and can now speak the language. I hope that I can return back to the Squamish Nation school and work with our children.



Chelsea Mitchell
METLAKATLA FIRST NATION

University of Toronto
Honours Bachelor of Science Specialist

I am currently working towards a degree in Theoretical Mathematics and Economics at the University of Toronto. After growing up in the small town of Prince Rupert, living in the city and being pushed academically at one of the top institutions in the world has been an incredible experience. My dream is to continue studying and to earn a PhD so that I can become a Professor and spend the rest of my life in the field of academia. I love everything to do with education and couldn't be happier doing anything else.



Dallas Nikal
WITSET FIRST NATION

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource
Management

My name is Dallas Nikal and I am Wet'suwet'en from Witset, BC. My goal is to use my degree in Wildlife & Fisheries to help my Nation manage our resources. I would like to also get my Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) designation after my degree. I would also like to start a consulting company in my area.



It is important to me to set a good example and show the importance of a higher education to my Daughters.

- CHRISTINA SAM-STANLEY



Chelsea Gladstone
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Xanjuu Gwang and my english name is Chelsea Gladstone. I am from the Haida Nation and I am currently in my fourth year of studies at UBC. As a student who is pursuing a double-major in First Nations and Indigenous Studies as well as Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice, all of my work is grounded in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. I hope to serve as a strong advocate for Indigenous people and my aspirations after I complete my undergrad is to go to Law School where I hope to advocate in a more formal way.



Christina Sam-Stanley
KITSUMKALUM FIRST NATION

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Arts in First Nation Studies

My Tsimshian name is Ksm Gyila K'yoo of Waap ?agaax, Kitsumkalum, I am very proud to come from the Tsimshian & Nlaka'pamux Nations. I am a Mother to four beautiful Daughters & Wife to a loving supportive Husband of eleven years. It is important to me to set a good example and show the importance of a higher education to my Daughters. After I receive my Bachelors I look forward to bringing my knowledge back to Kitsumkalum and help decolonize the structures the Potlatch Ban put into place so many years ago. Our Culture will be strong once again.



Dion (Ryan) Smith
WEST MOBERLY FIRST NATIONS

Concordia University
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing

My name is Dion Smith-Dokkie. I'm a member of the Dokkie family from West Moberly First Nations and am a student at Concordia University in Montreal. I'm currently completing the third year of my BFA in Painting and Drawing. My art practice, which includes painting, drawing, print and new media, talks about environmental futures, interactions between various human and non-human worlds, cartography, and science fiction. I'm also currently (as of September 2018) a research assistant and social media coordinator for Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace.



Eric Surette
KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Commerce

My name is Eric Surette and I was born and raised in Richmond, BC. I am a part of the Kispiox band and graduated from McMath Secondary school in June. I am immensely grateful to be starting my first year of studies towards a Bachelor of Commerce at UBC and am already enjoying the challenging curriculum and vibrant atmosphere here at university. I look forward to being a part of a generation with intelligent, creative, and accomplished First Nations people.



Joel Richardson
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Arts in First Nation Studies

I am a twenty-three year old male from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii and a proud member of the Haida Nation; my name is Joel Milas Howustii Richardson. Presently, I'm working on the final year of a degree in Education at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo. For me, education has been the key, learning the true history of Indigenous Peoples empowered me in ways I never could've imagined! My dream is to see the Haida Nation and other Indigenous groups become economically self-sufficient and in control of their own destiny.



Eva Louise Grant
CAYOOSE CREEK BAND

Stanford University
Bachelor of Arts in Comparative Literature

I am a fourth year student at Stanford University pursuing an Honors degree in Comparative Literature with minors in Modern languages and History. I am the co-founder of Stanford Indigenous feminists and a former intern with the Canadian Human Rights Commission. I love all creative pursuits - you can find me making music, films, and poetry in my spare time. In the future, I hope to be an advocate for justice and equity in Indigenous communities, using storytelling along with traditional fields like law, history, and journalism to envision a brighter future.



Karista Olson
GLEN VOWELL BAND

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Arts in English and Environmental and Sustainability Studies

My name is Karista Olson and I am in my final year at UNBC pursuing a Joint Major in English and Environmental Studies with Double Minors in First Nations Studies and International Studies. I have had the great honor of volunteering with numerous programs at my university and in my community which has provided me with the opportunity to meet some incredible young indigenous leaders. It is my hope that this work and my studies will allow me to eventually work on the national/international level contributing to the development of Indigenous rights.



I am immensely grateful to be starting my first year of studies towards a Bachelor of Commerce at UBC and am already enjoying the challenging curriculum and vibrant atmosphere here at university.

– ERIC SURETTE



Krystal Loverin
TAHLTAN BAND

Vancouver Community College
Bachelor of Applied Music

Krystal Loverin's traditional name is Edzi'u, she is a mixed race Tahltan/Taku River Tlingit songwriter and composer. Edzi'u received a diploma in Music Composition at Vancouver Community College and is currently completing her Music Composition Undergrad; with hopes to pursue a Masters degree in Ethnomusicology at UBC. Her most recent electronic body of work, Kime Ani, samples audio from old recordings of three generations of her matriarchs and grandmothers stories over soundscapes. Her songs are vessels of history, tradition, and adaptation; a record of Indigenous experience through a contemporary Indigenous lens.



Levi Nelson
LIL'WAT NATION

Emily Carr University of Art and Design
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Arts

My name is Levi Nelson and I am from the Lil'wat Nation located in Mount Currie, BC. I am currently in my third year at Emily Carr University where I am working very hard to complete my BFA in Visual Arts with a focus on Painting and Printmaking. I feel I have accomplished a lot since I started out on my artistic journey, having recently won the 2018 IDEA Art Award, as well as been chosen as Pique News Magazines' Best of Pemberton 2018 Favorite First Nations Artist. I believe my hard work is starting to pay off!



Lynnea Mills
SQUAMISH NATION

Capilano University
Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Lynnea Mills and I am currently a third year student at Capilano University. I am taking the Bachelors degree program for Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources. My goal after graduation is to attain experience within the Human Resources department for Squamish Nation. I would love to learn and gain knowledge through my community to continue and support Squamish Nation. My Great Grandfather, Chief Khot-La-Cha, taught me the importance of education and supporting your community.



Madelyn Brown
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Eastern Washington University
Bachelor of Arts in History

My name is Madelyn Brown and I'm honored to say that I am a citizen of the Nisga'a Nation. Growing up, I've always held a deep fascination for the histories and traditions of my people; because of this curiosity, it was only natural for me to pursue history as a career. Starting this Fall, I will begin my Bachelor of Arts in History. As I begin my education I hope to someday help in the preservation of our cultures for future generations to come.



Natasha Jones
PACHEEDAHT FIRST NATION

Camosun College
Bachelor of Business Administration

My career goal is to get a Bachelors degree in Human Resources and take my education home to be the Band Administrator. I had no idea what career I wanted until I held an Executive Assistant position with my Band. After working closely with Chief, Council, and the Band Manager, I knew I wanted to hold the Band Manager position as its an important role I feel a Band member should hold. I love my community, my family, and where I live. I am working hard so I can serve my people and build an empire for the next generation.



For me, education has been the key, learning the true history of Indigenous Peoples empowered me in ways I never could've imagined! My dream is to see the Haida Nation and other Indigenous groups become economically self-sufficient and in control of their own destiny.

- JOEL RICHARDSON



Nicholas Baker
SQUAMISH NATION

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Arts in Criminology

My name is Nick Baker and I am a proud member of the Squamish Nation. I will be attending Simon Fraser University in the fall to begin my degree in Criminology. After achieving this degree my goal is to go on to pursue a Law degree. I hope to be able to use my education to help my community in the future.



Nikki Fraser
TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWEPENC

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Arts

Weyt-kp Nikki Fraser re skwest (hello my name is Nikki Fraser), I am twenty seven years old from Tk'emlups te Secwépenc which is a part of the Secwépenc Nation located in the Interior of British Columbia. I am a proud mom of two, my son Trey who is seven years old and my daughter Aiyana, who is five years old. My volunteering work has inspired me to further my education, I am a first year Bachelor of Arts student at Thompson Rivers University majoring in Sociology and Political Science.



Nicki Wolfenden
GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Arts

I am a third year student working towards my BA degree with a major in Sociology and the end goal being to go to Law school. I went back to school as a mature student and single mother which was terrifying, but I knew I had to receive an education in order to provide better for my children. It can be challenging at times being a single mother and full-time student, but my children are what give me the drive to continue and with the help of this scholarship it has helped make my goals a reality.



Noelle Young
TZEACHTEN FIRST NATION

Emily Carr University of Art and Design
First Year Foundation

I am Noelle Young from Chilliwack, BC and I am continuing on my artistic journey and following my passion in the arts. Coming from a background in contemporary dance I hope to intertwine my love of movement into sculpture at Emily Carr University of Art and Design. I see in myself and my practice that self-development is key to a vibrant, active, and dynamic life within the arts. In my personal goals I am simply ever-evolving to attain that lifestyle. I am interested in sculpture and art therapy and am excited to see where my studying at Emily Carr takes me.



Rebecca Unger
K'ÒMOKS FIRST NATION

Dalhousie University
Bachelor of Arts in Environment, Sustainability & Society

I have always had a passion for the environment and the outdoors so my goal has been to do something with my life which benefits this. This is why I've decided to go into an Environmental Sustainability program where I get to learn even more about it. I hope to one day be able to support K'ómoks Nation and the world to become more sustainable so that we still have a wonderful place to live in, not only for us, but for future generations too.



It can be challenging at times being a single mother and full-time student, but my children are what give me the drive to continue and with the help of this scholarship it has helped make my goals a reality.

– NICKI WOLFENDEN



My career goal is to work in my Nation. Our land and our resources need to be protected for our future generations.

– REILEY TERBASKET



I also want to help bring back culture and art that has been seemingly lost or hidden away through appropriation. As an old saying I've heard before goes, "Culture is always growing and changing, for that is what people do."

- TRISHA SHORSON



Reiley Terbasket
LOWER SIMILKAMEEN INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia Okanagan
Bachelor of Science

I am a proud member of Lower Similkameen Indian Band, Syilx Nation. I graduated High School with Honors, attending my first year of University in Edmonton, AB while playing for King's University Women's Eagles Basketball. I attended Okanagan College Kelowna last year and played for OC Coyotes Women's Team. I transferred to UBC Okanagan this year to concentrate on completing my Bachelor of Science majoring in Biology and minoring in Environmental Studies. My career goal is to work in my Nation. Our land and our resources need to be protected for our future generations.



Taylor Whitney
XAXLI'P

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Commerce

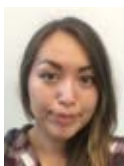
I am from the Xaxli'p community of the St'at'imc First Nation. I am nearing the end of my coursework in the Combined Major in Business and Computer Science program at the University of British Columbia and am greatly looking forward to joining the workforce. I hope to join a local tech company to design innovative solutions for a sustainable future as I strongly believe that technology can make great strides in the direction of rejuvenating our planet and combating climate change and pollution.



Ronda Billie
K'OMOKS FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Arts

?ilakas'la My father was Emmerson Billy and my grandfather was Willy Billy Chief of the Pentlatch People and my grandmother was Ethal Peave. My mother was Annie Edwards and my grandparents Louis & Agnes Edwards, and great-grandmother Annie Jones who was also known as Qualicum Annie. I am a descendant of the Pentlatch People of Deep Bay who were incorporated into K'ómoks First Nation many years ago. My goal in education is to be a Policy writer so that I can support communities in breaking away from government-imposed ideologies and build on transparency and giving a voice to all.



Trisha Shorson
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

Emily Carr University of Art and Design
First Year Foundation

As a Tsimshian, Carrier, and Haida, two-spirited Native, I already have a degree in Social Work and plan to obtain an Arts degree at Emily Carr. I hope to work alongside social education which gives voice to Indigenous issues in modern day platforms whether it be through arts, social media, news, events, or the education system. I also want to help bring back culture and art that has been seemingly lost or hidden away through appropriation. As an old saying I've heard before goes, "Culture is always growing and changing, for that is what people do."



I hope to one day be able to support K'ómoks Nation and the world to become more sustainable so that we still have a wonderful place to live in, not only for us, but for future generations too.

- REBECCA UNGER



Aaron Grant
LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND

University of Northern British Columbia
Master of Arts in First Nations Studies
Yahlnaaw / Aaron Grant is registered with the Law Kw'alaams Band and also has family lineage from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. She was born and raised in Lax Kxeen (Prince Rupert, BC) on Ts'msyen territory. Yahlnaaw is beginning her Master's Degree at UNBC in First Nations Studies. Yahlnaaw's name broadly translates to "leads an exceptional life". By advancing her education in First Nations Studies with a focus on Indigenous Language and Story Revitalization, she aims to fulfill the meaning of her name. Yahlnaaw's work also revolves around Decolonization, Indigenization, Reconciliation, and the importance of introducing these concepts to children.



Cheyenne Cunningham
KATZIE FIRST NATION

Simon Fraser University
Master of Arts in Linguistics of a First Nations Language

My name is Cheyenne Cunningham, I am from the Katzie First Nation. I graduated last summer from Simon Fraser University with my BA majoring in First Nations Studies and minoring in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies. More recently, I completed a Graduate Certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language program, also at SFU. It is through this program that I hope to support my community through Language Revitalization initiatives. I am a passionate learner and I'm really excited to continue my journey and complete my Masters degree and enroll in a PhD program.



Gina Mowatt
GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of Victoria
Master of Arts in History

Gina Mowatt is of Gitxsan and settler descent and grew up on Vancouver Island, her Gitxsan name is 'Nijog?amlax? lixs t'aa. Gina is pursuing her MA in History at the University of Victoria and is focusing her research on the history of colonial education and narratives of Gitxsan resilience and resistance. In her free time she enjoys community organizing as project director of the Innovative Young Indigenous Leaders Symposium.



Trystan Boyko

SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

Hawai'i Pacific University

Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology

My Haida name is K'aahldaa Xyaalas and I am from the islands of Haida Gwaii. With my chosen career path of Marine Biology, 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. I am beginning my third (junior) year at Hawai'i Pacific University, and I plan on being academically successful for the years to come. Currently, my educational goal is to finish a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology and return to Canada so I may apply some of my knowledge to the field. I plan on continuing school in British Columbia with a Master of Science in Ecological Restoration. Working on Haida Gwaii would be a dream. I hope one day I can make that dream a reality.



Melpatkwa Matthew

SIMPCW FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia

Master of Arts in Geography

Hi my name is Melpatkwa Matthew and I am a Secwepemc woman who grew up in Adams Lake, BC. I recently graduated from UBC and now I am back at UBC pursuing a Master of Arts in Geography. The research and work I do is within Indigenous geographies and Indigenous water governance. My goal is to explore and develop Secwepemc water governance and strategize ways to better our understanding of water and effectively translate environmental knowledge to my Nation. My career goal is to work within the health and environmental sectors.



Jessie Stirling
WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION

University of Toronto
Juris Doctor

My name is Jessie Stirling and I am a member of the Wei Wai Kum First Nation in Campbell River on Vancouver Island. I graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in Political Science in May 2017 and am now in my second year of the Juris Doctor (JD) Program at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. I am committed to advancing First Nations rights in the criminal and family law contexts and aspire to practice in these areas upon graduation.



I am committed to advancing First Nations rights in the criminal and family law contexts and aspire to practice in these areas upon graduation.

– JESSIE STIRLING



Michelle Buchholz
WITSET FIRST NATION

Simon Fraser University
Master of Public Policy

Michelle is a proud Wet'suwet'en woman and a member of the Witset (Moricetown) Band and was raised in Smithers, BC. She is a member of the Gitumden clan and the Cassyex house. She is currently completing her second year of the Master of Public Policy Program at Simon Fraser University. Her passion is working with Indigenous communities and she has been doing so for over thirteen years within non-profit organizations, government, and as a consultant. She is committed to the development of effective policies for Indigenous peoples and is writing her capstone on developing a policy on anti-Indigenous racism.



Krista-Lynn Joseph
DITIDAHT FIRST NATION

Vancouver Island University
Master of Education in Educational Leadership

My name is Krista-Lynn Joseph and I am completing a Master of Education in Educational Leadership. My research aims to provide reformations for a mental health literacy guide in order to include Indigenous cultures, histories and pedagogies. As a Mental Health Professional and someone who is interested in Indigenous education, my hope is to make suggestions on how to implement this wonderful curriculum and do so in a way that is culturally sensitive and pedagogically appropriate. In turn, I hope to contribute to the increase in mental health literacy amongst our people.



Nicole Cardinal
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Master of Community and Regional Planning

My name is Nicole Cardinal, I proudly represent the Dakelh Nation from Stellaquo, BC. I am a member of the Luk sil yo clan and a mom to two beautiful daughters. I am currently enrolled in Community and Regional Planning with a specialization in Indigenous Community Planning. My goal is to work with Indigenous communities and use decolonizing methods to enrich planning with Indigenous methodologies. Indigenous peoples have been excluded from important work such as planning and it is time to have a seat at the table.



Nakkita Trimble
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

Emily Carr University of Art and Design
Master of Fine Arts

Nakkita Trimblehl wa'y, ii Algaxhl Gwilks-?alt'amtkwhl wam aluugigadiy. Ksim Ganada ?iiy, ii Gingolx wil ?itgwiy. Nisga'ahl nooy, ii Tlingithl nigwoodiy. Rose (Gurney)hl wahl agwii-nits'iits'iy, ii Christopher Trimblehl wahl agwii-niy'e'ey. My name is Nakkita Trimble. My Nisga'a name is Speaking Through Art. I am from Wilps Axdii Wil Luugooda, The House that is Never Empty. I am Frog clan and maternally from Gingolx, British Columbia. Maternally I am Nisga'a. My great grandparents names are Rose (Gurney) and Christopher Trimble. My great-grandparents were one of two of the last arranged marriages from my village.



Vanessa Fladmark
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

University of British Columbia
Master of Science in Biological Oceanography

My research includes studying juvenile pink and chum salmon diets during the vulnerable period of their early marine migration. As well as investigating trends in shoreline litter across BC and engaging with communities on this issue by advocating for reduced plastic use for the sake of the ocean. Being from Haida Gwaii, the ocean is central to my spirituality and way of life, I hope to interweave these values with scientific research to understand and protect our beautiful ecosystems and livelihoods for generations to come.



Wendy Beaton
LIL'WAT NATION

Vancouver Island University
Master of Education in Educational Leadership

âma sq?it! Good Day! My traditional name is Numnasolga and I am a mother to four boys, a wife, a sister, a daughter, and an aunt to many. I am a member of the Lil'wat First Nation in Mount Currie, BC, however I currently live in the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw People. I am grateful to New Relationship Trust Foundation 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 and paving the way for future generations yet to come. kukwstum?ckál?ap Thank you all.



Being from Haida Gwaii, the ocean is central to my spirituality and way of life, I hope to interweave these values with scientific research to understand and protect our beautiful ecosystems and livelihoods for generations to come.

– VANESSA FLADMARK





Erik Prytula

OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

Thompson Rivers University

Master of Science in Environmental Science

I am a member of the Haida Nation and am currently attending Thompson Rivers University for a Masters of Environmental Science. I hold a degree in Biology and a Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Business Administration. I am a traditional Haida Artist and was a finalist nominee for Emerging Artist of Kamloops 2016 and 2017. I'm the lead designer in a business called Adamant Prints, where the goal is to produce inspirational clothing. I'm also a designer and model for Fashion Speaks International, which is a Fashion show that raises money for the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.



Samantha Bray

STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

University of Saskatchewan - Western College of

Veterinary Medicine

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

My name is Samantha Bray and I am a member of Stellat'en First Nation. In 2016, I graduated from the University of Winnipeg with my Bachelor of Science Degree and that summer I moved to Saskatoon, SK to pursue Veterinary Medicine. I am currently in my third year of studies at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine towards my goal of becoming a Veterinarian. My future goals include owning a mobile veterinary clinic that will visit northern and Indigenous communities to improve the access to veterinary care and improve the pets quality of life.



Taylor Wale

GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL

University of British Columbia

Master of Science in Forestry

My name is Taylor Wale and I am a member of the Gitksan community of Gitanmaax. Coming from a river community, naturally, I am all about the salmon. Upon completion of my undergraduate studies in 2017, I've since worked alongside my Nation and our six communities along the Skeena River to collaboratively govern the salmon and waterways that lie within our collective ancestral territories. In an effort to bring a new set of skills to our Gitksan watershed, I am now amidst a Master of Science in Forestry working with the Pacific Salmon Ecology & Conservation Lab. Ha'miyyaa!



Brandy Kane

XAXLI'P

Trent University
Doctor of Philosophy in
Indigenous Studies

My spirit name is Thunder Eagle Woman and my colonial name is Brandy Kane. I am a proud Xaxli'p member. Currently I am entering my third year of studies. As a St'at'imc woman I am well aware of the challenges faced by Indigenous people in today's society, such as the loss of language, culture and traditional ways of life. My research goal is to work with Indigenous peoples to explore their personal journey of healing and wellness through ceremonial practices. This research has the potential to inform individuals and communities alternate options other than western approaches to good health.



Kerrie Charnley

KATZIE FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia
Doctor of Philosophy in Language and
Literacy Education

I am a Coast Salish, Katzie First Nation, student in the PhD program in Language and Literacy Education at UBC. My PhD is fulfilling my grandmother's dream that I write down her story. My great-grandfather, Old Pierre Hawkltan, is renowned for telling our epic cosmology, The Faith of a Coast Salish Indian. I am following my families work to educate. My dream is to become a Professor with the hope of Coast Salish values being recognized at universities for the success of Indigenous youth, our future change-makers of society, and for the repatriation of our women and children back home.



My future goals include owning a mobile veterinary clinic that will visit northern and Indigenous communities to improve the access to veterinary care and improve the pets quality of life.

– SAMANTHA BRAY



Jordan Wilson

MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

New York University
Doctor of Philosophy in Sociocultural An-
thropology

I am a member of the Musqueam First Nation and am currently in my first year of the PhD program in Sociocultural Anthropology at New York University. As an alumnus of UBC, I hold an MA in Anthropology and a BA in First Nations Studies. My research interests are in museums and curatorial practice, Indigenous art, and the relationship between cultural institutions and Indigenous communities and artists. Through my PhD research, I seek to identify approaches to decolonizing museums, to work collaboratively with my community, and support Indigenous arts, culture and language.



Shana Thomas

(Manson)

SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION

Royal Roads University
Doctor of Social Sciences

Lahalawuts'aat, Shana Thomas (Manson) I have a Bachelors degree in Political Science (2001) and a Masters Degree in Indigenous Governance (2008). I have dedicated my career to working with First Nations in BC. I am the single mother of two, a daughter who is twenty one and a son with Autism Spectrum Disorder who is thirteen. My research project is, "Hul'qumi'num Snuw'uy'ulth, 'Reconciliation' and the Quest for Transformation" where I will be investigating Hul'qumi'num pre-contact "Reconciliation"/ conflict resolution frameworks and evaluating the current state centred "Reconciliation" concept. I hope my research will contribute to bringing back our laws and our knowledge.



As a St'at'imc woman I am well aware of the challenges faced by Indigenous people in today's society, such as the loss of language, culture and traditional ways of life.

– BRANDY KANE



Tommy Happynook HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS

University of Victoria

Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology

My name is Tommy Happynook Jr. (Hii-ni-nah-sim). I am Nuu-chah-nulth from the HUU-ay-aht First Nations and I come from the House of Caa-caa-tsii-as. I am in my second year of the Anthropology Doctoral program at the University of Victoria and I am very happy to be working with Dr. Andrea Walsh. The question that my research will seek to answer is what is the relationship between connection to land, traditional knowledge, and cultural revitalization. This research will focus on my own experience of reconnection, revitalization, and the restoration of my family's knowledge, presence, and responsibility to our hereditary territory.



Through my PhD research, I seek to identify approaches to decolonizing museums, to work collaboratively with my community, and support Indigenous arts, culture and language.

– JORDAN WILSON



My dream is to become a Professor with the hope of Coast Salish values being recognized at universities for the success of Indigenous youth, our future change-makers of society, and for the repatriation of our women and children back home.

– KERRIE CHARNLEY



Leigh Joseph

SQUAMISH NATION

University of Victoria

Doctor of Philosophy in Ethnobotany

Leigh Joseph/Styawat from the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) First Nation is an ethnobotanist, researcher and community activist working to contribute to cultural knowledge renewal in connection to traditional plant foods and medicines. Leigh's research takes a community-based approach and is influenced by her experience as an Indigenous woman reconnecting to her cultural roots. Wherever possible she draws on ancestral teachings that are connected to traditional plants and the land in her research. Leigh has worked as an Ethnobotanist for a number of Indigenous communities. She works in a respectful way within community and takes the time to develop trust and build relationships.



Ryan Rogers

MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Commerce

I am an aspiring Marketing Professional currently in my fourth year at UBC's Sauder School of Business studying a marketing specialization. I have experience working in the Indigenous tourism industry. I enjoy making a difference in Aboriginal communities and seeing results happen from my hard work. I enjoy playing soccer, tennis, and snowboarding for fun and I have a strong passion for traveling.





Kashtin Apsassin

BLUEBERRY RIVER FIRST NATIONS

MacEwan University
Bachelor of Commerce

You have to truly leave to fully appreciate home. That's what my undergraduate degree has taught me thus far. As an International Business student, I've been exposed to the world, new languages, new cultures, new ways of thinking, and it's made me all the better. Yes, I'm a burgeoning young professional who aims to bring the world to our doorstep, and our doorstep, to the world. I'm aiming for a career in International Business development, International marketing, and Global Strategic management - motivated by a personal passion to learn as much of the world as possible.

CANFOR | SCHOLARSHIP - MASTERS



Michelle Walsh

NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION

Thompson Rivers University
Master of Science in Environmental
Science

Hadih, my name is Michelle Walsh and I'm a proud member of the Dakelh Nation, Ihtseh yoo (Frog) clan. My best memories are of my grandparents taking us to set nets on Nadleh Bunk'ut. Witnessing first-hand the importance of Salmon inspired me to pursue a Fisheries career. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from SFU and am working on my graduate studies at TRU. I love being a positive role model for Indigenous youth because no matter your situation, some education and a positive attitude can take you anywhere - believing in yourself is the key.



I'm aiming for a career in International Business development, International marketing, and Global Strategic management - motivated by a personal passion to learn as much of the world as possible.

- KASHTIN APSASSIN



Lynn Michel

FORT NELSON FIRST NATION

College of New Caledonia
Accounting and Finance Diploma

My name is Lynn Michel and I am from Fort Nelson First Nation. I am currently a full time student at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George BC, working towards a diploma in Business Management for the next 2 years. When I complete my diploma, my goal is to attend university in order to get a Business degree within the next 4 years. My goal is to start a small business in my community and be able to apply my newly gained knowledge and be very successful at it. Thank You!

DRILLWELL | BURSARY



Latisha Basran

COOK'S FERRY FIRST NATION

Okanagan College
Administrative Assistant

I would like to gain work experience as an Administrative assistant. I would like to work in a career that helps other people. It is important to me that I work in a career that positively influences my community. In the following years, I plan to further my education; I would like to work towards a Masters Degree in the future.

PHT | BURSARY



Akimi Okabe

NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Accounting

I am a proud single mother of two children, Liam and Avery. I am currently in the Business Program at Kwantlen Polytechnic University pursuing a diploma in Accounting. I have worked for my Nation for the past 8 years and would like to further my education and look forward to new opportunities in the future.



Aidan Lenhart-Baker
SQUAMISH NATION

Ottawa University
Bachelor of Arts in Business Economics

Some of my short-term goals in life include finishing my Undergraduate degree in Business economics and Accounting, while at the same time working towards earning my second NAIA college mens lacrosse All American award this season. Following graduation I would like to get involved with the business world and begin laying the foundation for the rest of my career. Through this involvement I hope to gain experience and knowlegde which I can bring back and contribute to my community, maybe one day also becoming a major influence and contributor to the future of the Squamish Nation and my family.



Jeffrey Sutherland
?AQ'AM (ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND)

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Commerce

My name is Jeffrey Sutherland and I am a member of the Ktunaxa Nation from southeastern British Columbia but have lived in Langley, BC my whole life. I live a very diverse life of academics, arts, athletics, community involvement, and more. I am currently in my first year of a Bachelor of Commerce at the Sauder School of Business at UBC. I have not chosen a specific career path yet, but my main professional goal is to end up in a position where I can use my knowledge and experience to help stimulate economic growth in First Nations communities.



Through this involvement I hope to gain experience and knowlegde which I can bring back and contribute to my community, maybe one day also becoming a major influence and contributor to the future of the Squamish Nation and my family.

– AIDAN LENHART-BAKER







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