

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

2021/22



**SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY  
AWARD RECIPIENTS**

# LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## Mike Bonshor

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2021–22 Scholarship and Bursary Award Recipient Brochure. This yearly highlight allows us to honour and celebrate the educational success of each award recipients.

The NRTF awards support Indigenous students across the province as they pursue their post-secondary goals and dream careers. Representing nearly every trade and academic discipline — from welding to culinary arts; nursing to business; education to law — these outstanding students will be the workforce of the future and champions for our Nations. We are extremely proud and grateful to be part of their journey.

## Kory Wilson

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation

In 2021–22, we provided funding support for a record 279 students. While most students are studying in BC, some students are completing their studies at institutions as far away as New York University and The European Graduate School in Switzerland.

Based on feedback the recipients express an overwhelming amount of appreciation for the award as many are struggling juggling multiple priorities and responsibilities on top of trying to make ends meet. Many recipients indicate that they simply would not be able to pursue their academic goals without the award. We are grateful to be able to support these students, but we know there are many more that we cannot support.

## Clifford White

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation

With the increasing Indigenous population, the demand for scholarships and bursaries increases each year. Though we have been able to expand our support due to the generous support of our donors, we continue to seek more partnerships. This year, we welcomed the BC Council of Forest Industries as a new partner. This partnership supported the creation of three new bursaries aimed at students enrolled in studies that focus on Forestry and its related industries. We are grateful for our returning partners: The First Nations Health Authority, Drillwell Enterprises, Peace Hills Trust, Keegan Combes Memorial Award, Coastal GasLink, Indigenous Leaders award, and the Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia. Together, we are closing the gap and investing in the future.

## Dara Parker

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation

We trust that you will enjoy this brochure and recognise the strength of the students and the hope for our collective future. If you would like to support the New Relationship Trust Foundation to continue to fund students, please reach out to become part of this critical initiative.

Respectfully,

**Michael Bonshor, Kory Wilson,  
Clifford White, Dara Parker**

# NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST FOUNDATION

## Our Mission:

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

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

# 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 3,387 scholarships and bursaries totaling \$15.4 million in post-secondary financial aid.

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

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

# SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS

The NRT Foundation and BC First Nations communities realize the importance of education. The NRT Foundation 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 to the NRT Foundation.

**3,387 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 1,775 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 1,612 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 Matt Cook-Contois, Senior Associate – Programs Specialist at (604) 925-3338 or [mattcookcontois@nrtf.ca](mailto:mattcookcontois@nrtf.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
2019/20	209	137	44	20	-	410
2020/21	138	133	35	15	-	321
2021/22	121	111	36	11	-	279
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1612</b>	<b>1108</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>3,387</b>

## EDUCATION GRANTS DISBURSED

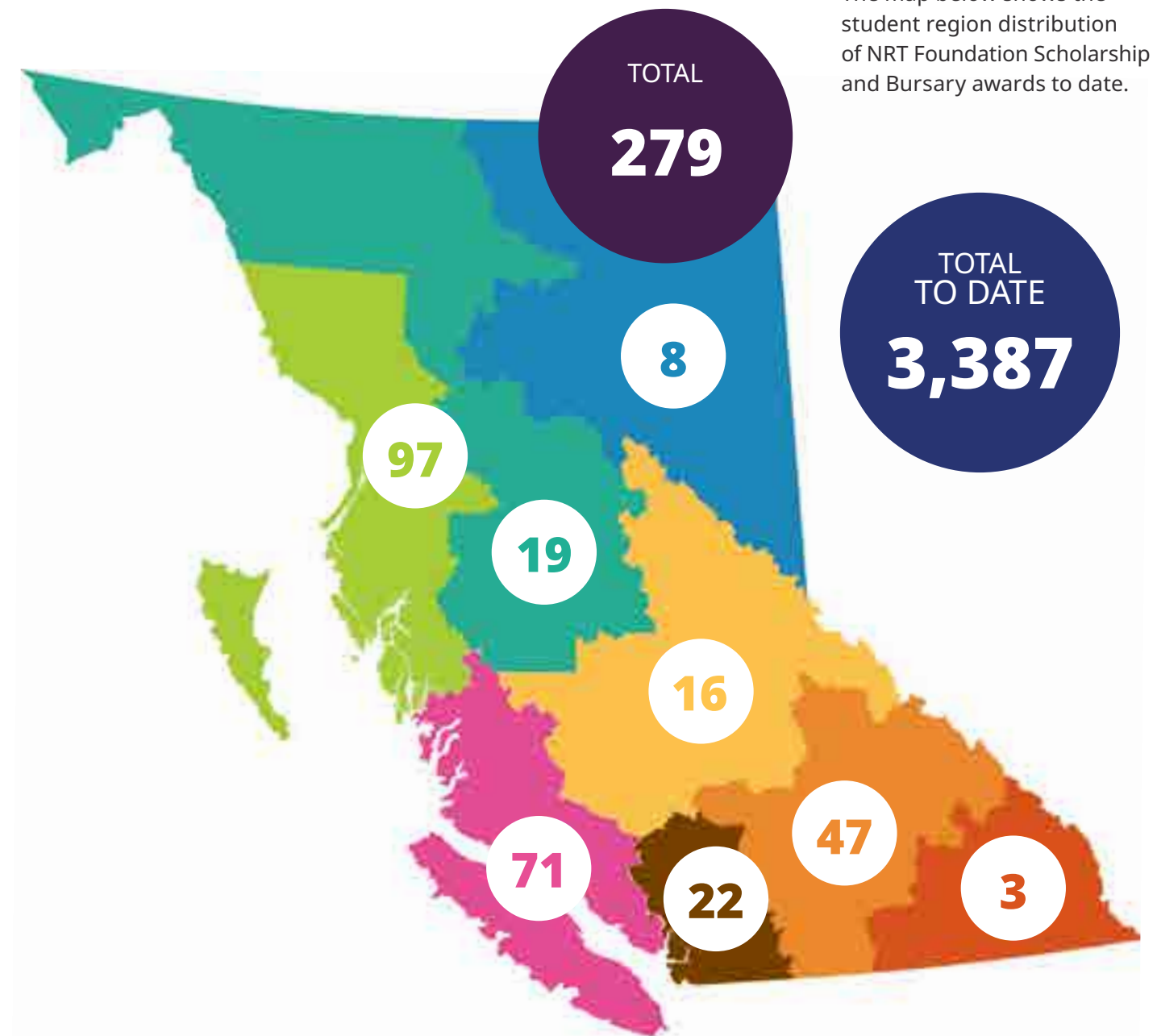
Since 2007, the NRT, NRT Foundation and Partners have distributed more than \$15.4 million to support the post-secondary education of Indigenous people in BC.

## EDUCATION LEVERAGED

	TOTAL
2007/08	\$717,500
2008/09	\$763,000
2009/10	\$747,500
2010/11	\$743,000
2011/12	\$751,000
2012/13	\$731,500
2013/14	\$729,000
2014/15	\$713,500
2015/16	\$935,500
2016/17	\$1,122,500
2017/18	\$1,393,500
2018/19	\$1,625,000
2019/20	\$2,030,250
2020/21	\$1,307,500
2021/22	\$1,155,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,465,750</b>

2021-2022

## WHERE THE FUNDING GOES



# PARTNERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

The contributions from our generous Partners allowed the NRT Foundation to support over 275 Indigenous students with Scholarships and Bursaries in 2021-22. Almost all 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.

By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, the NRT Foundation and Partners are building the capacity of Indigenous students, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, creating a 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 across BC through the NRT Foundation Scholarship & Bursary program, please contact:

## **Matt Cook-Contois**

Programs Specialist - Senior Associate  
NRT Foundation  
(604) 925-3338 ext. 107  
mattcookcontois@nrtf.ca



**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. 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 and wellness field.

*FNHA recipient bios begin on page 14.*

## **KEEGAN COMBES MEMORIAL AWARD**

**The Keegan Combes Memorial Award** was established to honour the memory of Keegan Coombes, a 29-year-old First Nations man and a member of Skwah First Nation. He was a high school graduate, a grade 10 pianist, and a chess champion enrolled in a trades college at the time of his passing. Keegan also lived with disabilities, and was non-verbal by choice. He is remembered, missed, and loved.

*Keegan recipient bios begin on page 44.*



Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia Scholarship.

Formed in 2005, the Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia (LTSA) is a publicly accountable, statutory corporation responsible for operating the land title and survey systems of BC. These systems provide the foundation for all real property business and ownership in the province.

*BC Land Title & Survey recipient bios begin on page 52.*



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 48.*

“Desiree's academic focus is on Indigenous studies, law, and coastal ecology. Her experience to date has included working with a Canadian NGO in Latin America. Desiree was student body president for two consecutive years while attending Coast Mountain College in Prince Rupert, BC. As well as a delegate for the National Aboriginal Caucus through the Canadian Federation of Students. She has been awarded academic achievement awards from the University of British Columbia, Irving K Barber Scholarship Society, Indspire, and the Assembly of First Nations.

**Desiree Louis**  
Coastal Gaslink Bursary Recipient

*Bio on page 47*





The BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) is the voice of the B.C. forest industry. B.C.'s forest industry is adapting, evolving and innovating, and continues to be one of the most significant economic drivers in the province and the largest producer of softwood lumber in Canada.

*COFI recipient bios begin on page 50.*



Peace Hills Trust is Canada's largest and oldest First Nations owned federally regulated financial institution, driven by a vision to satisfy the unique financial needs of the Indigenous community. Founded with the objective of providing financial and trust services to First Nations across Canada.

*PHT recipient bios begin on page 58.*

## Coastal GasLink

Coastal GasLink supports learning opportunities for Indigenous people through training, education and workforce development. By supporting Bursaries and Scholarships awarded through the New Relationship Trust Foundation, Coastal GasLink hopes to advance the educational needs identified by Indigenous communities to foster long-term, positive change and to leave a positive legacy within communities.

*Coastal Gaslink recipient bios begin on page 46.*



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 61.*

### Indigenous Leaders Scholarship



Indigenous Leaders Scholarship is an award which is made possible through the donation of private individual who wished to honour their Parents and contribute to reconciliation. This individual has demonstrated a generous spirit and wishes their contribution to assist Indigenous youth with their studies. Indigenous Leaders Scholarship will be given out to an Indigenous Medical Student who identifies as female and is in their second year of studies or further.

*Indigenous Leaders Scholarship recipient bios begin on page 56.*



**First Nations Health Authority**  
Health through wellness

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is the first and only provincial health organization of our kind in Canada. Our mission is to transform the way health care is delivered to First Nations and Indigenous people in BC. We are working to reform health care through direct services and collaboration with provincial partners. We are governed by and serve First Nations individuals and communities in BC. Our talented teams value respect and foster lateral kindness in their working relationships. Our holistic approach to wellness, based on First Nations teachings, is incorporated into all aspects of our work culture.

The FNHA invites you to join us on a journey to wellness. We're looking for compassionate individuals like you to be a part of our innovative and multi-cultural team, a team that is bringing health and wellness to BC's First Nations populations.

We have partnered with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage and support First Nations individuals to pursue exciting and rewarding careers in healthcare through bursaries and scholarships for various training programs,

including programs that can be completed in under a year.

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

We recognize and celebrate the diversity of all BC First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and promote a work environment that models cultural safety and humility of every employee. When you work with the FNHA, you will truly make a difference in your life and for many others. Here, your work changes lives, starting with your own.

Want to know more? Visit us at [fnha.ca/about/work-with-us](https://fnha.ca/about/work-with-us)

or email [careers@fnha.ca](mailto:careers@fnha.ca)



**Eleanor Abbott**  
**Skwah First Nation**

ICS Canada  
Medical Transcriptionist

My name is Eleanor Abbott, I have the pleasure of residing and growing up in my community on Skwah First Nation, located in Chilliwack, B.C. I love continuing to expand the skills that I have acquired over the years working for an Indigenous health organization. My goal is to mentor our Sto:lo Youth, by providing them with vital skills that are needed to survive in the world we live in.



**Chandra Barton**  
**Gingolx Village Government**

Coast Mountain College  
Health Care Assistant

My name is Chandra Barton, and I am both Kwakiutl, and Nisga'a. I am a mother of three beautiful children, and I will graduate to become a certified Health Care Assistant in April 2022. I look forward to continuing my education in the healthcare field. My presence and action in the healthcare field as an Indigenous person is something I value because of the connection I can share with those accessing healthcare. My culture is very compassionate, and this career choice matches my compassionate values. I am proud to have a career that reflects my personal values.







**Kelsa Carmen**  
**We-Wai-Kai First Nation**

Vancouver Island University  
Practical Nursing

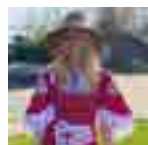
My name is Kelsa Paige Carmen. This upcoming fall semester I look forward to starting the full-time Practical Nursing Diploma at Vancouver Island University, as well as starting a rewarding career in health care.



**Chelsea Dillabough**  
**Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc**

College of the Rockies  
Practical Nursing

My name is Chelsea Dillabough, I am twenty years old, and I live in Cranbrook, BC. My career goal is to finish my practical nursing diploma and become a registered nurse. Once I graduate, I would like to do work with Indigenous communities.



**Laeticia Doolan**  
**Lax Kw'alaams Band**

Vancouver Island University  
Community Mental Health Worker

My name is Laeticia Doolan, I come from the Gitwilgyoots tribe, and my crest is Ganhada (Raven) clan. My traditional name is Nism mah ghoon (which means "picking in a strawberry patch"). I am Tsimshian, Nisga'a, and Gitksan and my homelands are Lax Kw' Alaams and Gingolix, B.C. My future aspiration is to become an outreach worker, to support those in need of help with mental health and addictions. I am currently enrolled in the Community Mental Health Worker Program at Vancouver Island University. →



**Megan Egan**  
**Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc**

Douglas College  
Child and Youth Care

My name is Megan and I am thirty-one years old. I live in Maple Ridge, B.C. and I am currently an Indigenous support worker working with children in a school setting. I am also going to school for Child and Youth Counselling. Once I finished my degree, I hope to help Indigenous youth and their communities. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity.



**Alex Elliott**  
**Williams Lake First Nation**

Okanagan College  
Registered Massage Therapy

My name is Alex Elliott, I was born and raised at 150 Mile House near Williams Lake. My goal is to pursue a career in Registered Massage Therapy as I am very passionate about this field of study and I am fascinated with the idea of healing through my hands.



**Talesha Erickson**  
**Gingolx Village Government**

Native Education College  
Family & Community Counselling

My name is Talesha Erickson, I come from the Nisga'a Nation. I am working towards my Bachelor of Social work to work with Indigenous youth and families.



**Janet Harry**  
**Haisla Nation**

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Chemical Addictions

My name is Pul'xa'neqs, my given name is Janet Harry, and I am from the Haisla Nation. I am a mom of three children and two grandchildren. I am currently entering my third year with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in an advanced diploma program for Chemical Addictions. I am currently finishing up my practicum at Seven Sacred Fires Society in Surrey where I will work part-time while attending school this year. My passion for the addictions and mental health and wellness field runs deep, and I want to make a difference to help individuals find their voices while embarking on their healing journeys!



**Kaitlyn Hilbach**  
**Gitanmaax Band**

College of New Caledonia  
Kinesiology

My name is Kaitlyn Hilbach and I am from Gitanmaax B.C. I belong to the house of Wii Muk' willixw and my clan is Lax Gibuu. My dream career is to become a physio-therapist and help First Nations people in the health care system.



**Shay Lee Jack**  
**Ulkatcho First Nation**

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Indigenous Human Services

Dahooja (Hello)! I am Shay Lee Jack from the Ulkatcho First Nation. I currently reside in Merritt, B.C. as I am growing my education to become a community support worker for at-risk youth and teens. Mental health is very important to me, and as a decolonizer, I feel it is a core value to help our children for the next generation's healing. With the help of this bursary, I am closer to fulfilling not only my dream but my main goal in life, to become the help that I once needed when I was younger and struggling. I encourage my youth to never give up and stay in school. Chanalya (thank you) for this great honour. Dreams do come true with the right amount of dedication and hard work. All my relations, Shay Lee Jack.



**Tehya Jaeger**  
**Metlakatla First Nation**

Vancouver College of Counsellor Training  
Addictions Worker

My name is Tehya Jaeger, I am a mix of Greek, from my paternal side, and First Nations, from my maternal side. I am from Metlakatla, B.C and my clan is the ganhada clan. I am enrolled at the Vancouver College of Counsellor Training and I hope to specialize in Addictions and Indigenous Counselling.



**Ash Jaeger**  
Gingolx Village Government

Vancouver College of Counsellor Training  
Professional Counselling & Youth  
and Family Support Worker

My name is Ash Brian Jaeger and I am a citizen of the Nisga'a nation. Nisga'a land is in the Nass Valley located in northern British Columbia. I am the grandson of Jean Fitzgerald Nee Trimble and Brian Fitzgerald. I am currently in school to become a counsellor and I am hoping to focus my practice on helping people within the LGBTQS2+ community.



**Brenna Joseph**  
Splatsin

Thompson Rivers University  
Human Services

My name is Brenna Joseph and I am from the Splatsin Band in Enderby, B.C. I will be completing my Human Services diploma in April 2022 and I am hopeful to begin my Bachelor of Social Work the following September. I plan to find a career in mental health and substance use social work when my schooling is complete.

**“I have five children and four grandchildren who are beautiful, strong, and driven in every way. I want to be able to give back to my community and to be someone that my people can rely on. It has taken me several years to pursue my dream career and now that I am on it, I am quite excited.**

— Kimberly Lincoln



**Shyla Lamb**  
Skeetchestn Indian Band

Sprott Shaw College  
Community Support Worker -  
Social Services

My name is Shyla Lamb and I am a proud member of the Skeetchestn Indian Band. I am in the Community Support Worker program in Kamloops, B.C. I chose this career path because of my drive to help people. After the completion of my CSW diploma, I intend to continue my education by enrolling in the Bachelor of Social Work program at Thompson Rivers University. I would like to thank NRTF for the financial assistance during my first year of post-secondary schooling.



**Kimberly Lincoln**  
Gingolx Village Government

CDI College  
Addictions and Community  
Services Worker

Hello, my name is Kimberly Lincoln, I am a part of the Wilps Gans AxxDii Wii LuuGooda Ganda Clan. My Nisgaa Name is Aama Masim Noom Ganaaw which translates to “Beautiful Frog Mother”. I come from the community of Gingolx, which is one of the four Nisgaa Communities. I have five children and four grandchildren who are beautiful, strong, and driven in every way. I want to be able to give back to my community and to be someone that my people can rely on. It has taken me several years to pursue my dream career and now that I am on it, I am quite excited.



**Kennedy Louis**  
Okanagan Indian Band

Canadian National Institute of Health  
Dental Hygiene

My name is Kennedy Louis, and I am from the Okanagan Indian Band in Vernon, B.C. I plan to graduate from my program to become a Registered Dental Hygienist and work within my community and surrounding communities. Throughout my previous degree at the University of British Columbia, I studied human kinetics with a focus on health promotion. With my current studies of dental hygiene, I have studied extensively the health care inequities and disparities that Indigenous peoples are still facing today. There is a major lack of oral hygiene care present in many Indigenous communities across Canada. So, with my past and present education, I plan to give back to my community and break down the barriers currently present to provide them with the health care they deserve.



**Nancy Lucas**  
Ahousaht First Nation

Vancouver Island University  
Health Care Assistant

My name is Nancy Lucas, and I am from the Ahousaht First Nation. My career goal is to become a certified Health Care Assistant. I want to go back home and look after our Elders once I have completed my schooling.



**Brea McChesney**  
Cowichan Tribes

University of the Fraser Valley  
Social Services

Hello, my name is Brea McChesney, and I am Coast Salish First Nations from the Cowichan Tribes. I am currently studying in the field of social work, and my career goals are to be in corrections or Fraser Health. I am grateful for my educational experience and looking forward to my next few years at university! My education will become my power in making a difference in people's lives.

**“I plan to give back to my community and break down the barriers currently present to provide them with the health care they deserve.**

— Kennedy Louis



**Jasmine Montgomery Reid**  
Lower Similkameen  
Indian Band

Sprott Shaw College  
Licensed Practical Nursing

Jasmine Montgomery Reid raised in the Similkameen Valley is proudly a part of the community of both Syilx Nation and Heiltsuk Nation. She identifies with both Nations and carries the traditional Syilx name of White Feather Woman and the Heiltsuk name of Wikv. Currently, Jasmine is in nursing school intending to bring trauma-informed care with culturally competent safe practices to all Indigenous Peoples.



**Sherri Marino**  
Esk'etemc

Native Education College  
Family & Community Counselling

Weykt! My name is Sherri Marino, I am Esk'etemc First Nation, from Alkali Lake, B.C, south of Williams Lake in the Cariboo. I came back to school to pursue my career as a Family and Community support counsellor for Indigenous families. I am currently enrolled in the certification program and will be continuing to obtain my diploma throughout 2022-2023. I have not been in school in decades, so returning to the Native Education College was a huge step. It is traditional and cultural teaching, and know I will be able to help our people when I am finished with my education. I was a part of the system in my past, I have been sober for twenty years and know what a difference coming back to school has made for me! I am looking forward to helping our Indigenous families find balance and the support they deserve. Your kindness in helping me by awarding me this bursary is so greatly appreciated. Returning to school has been a struggle and this bursary has lifted this burden so I can focus on my studies and not worry. Thank you so much! Kukwsts'etsemc, (Thank you!) Sherri Lynn Marino.



**Alyssa Spence**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

Native Education College  
Family & Community Counselling

Hello, my name is Alyssa Spence, and I am 28 years old. I grew up in the Tsimshian territories in Terrace, B.C. with my mom and younger sister. I will be entering my first year of the Family & Community Counselling program with Native Education College in Vancouver, B.C. Growing up, my mom was my strongest advocate. She made sure I had access to the resources I needed to help deal with the emotional trauma that a lot of our people have to endure in their lives. She allowed me to receive therapy and counselling, and also reached out to peers to help guide me in ways she felt she could not. I've learned that not everyone has this kind of support in their lives. A lot of my peers grew up without parents, only one parent, or parents struggling with addictions that did not allow them to be present. With my education in Family and Community Counselling, I strive to be that support for others. I want to be the person who can recognize when someone needs help and have the tools to help instill healthy habits, mentality, and confidence. T'oyaxsut 'nūün to the NRTF and FNHA.



**Shyla Morgan**  
Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nations

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Access to Practical Nursing

My name is Shyla Morgan and I am from Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation. My main career goal at the moment is to complete my Licensed Practical Nursing Diploma and to continue my education in the health sciences field.



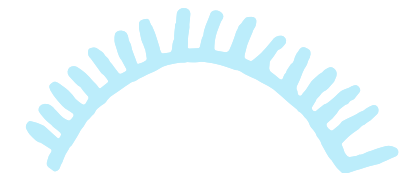
**Renae Nyce**  
Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw

Native Education College  
Family & Community Counselling

I am Nisga'a and I grew up in Gitwinksihlkw, BC. I plan to use my education from school, and the teachings from my elders and culture to help our Indigenous youth and children. I have always thought of ways to give back to my community and figure out a way to help my people. I had many people dear to me in my life inspire me to take this path, my mom being one. Taking this course would aid my vision of helping our youth. With the constant support of my community, I know I can do anything I put my mind to.

“My passion is to help others, I have once taken the Health Care Assistant Program once before, however, due to health problems I could not complete it. I now come back from being on life support for seventeen days during 2018/19. I had to jump at the opportunity to get a second chance at taking this course to set my career.

— Gladys Naziel



**Gladys Naziel**  
Witset First Nation

Native Education College  
Health Care Assistant

I am from Moricetown, B.C. I am from the small frog clan and come from the house of many eyes. My passion is to help others, I have once taken the Health Care Assistant Program once before, however, due to health problems I could not complete it. I now come back from being on life support for seventeen days during 2018/19. I had to jump at the opportunity to get a second chance at taking this course to set my career. So, from the age of forty-seven until I retire, I can work and build up my pension fund.



**Kayla Seymour**  
Stz'uminus First Nation

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Arts - Child and Youth care

My name is Kayla Seymour and I am from Stz'uminus First Nation located in Ladysmith, B.C. My goal is to ultimately end up in the law field. My path to get there is starting by getting the Child & Youth Care Diploma, enrolling in an Indigenous social work degree, and finishing off in Indigenous law. My education is a long journey ahead of me that I am determined to finish.



I plan on working in more remote areas after opening my own practice to reach people who may not have access to dental care. After learning about how poor oral health can negatively affect someone's overall health, I want to make dental care available to as many people as I can.

— Alyssa Wale



**Alyssa Wale**  
Gitanmaax Band

College of New Caledonia  
Dental Hygiene

Hello, my name is Alyssa Wale. I grew up in a small town called Vanderhoof and I am from the Gitanmaax band. I am going into my second year of the Dental Hygiene diploma program at CNC in Prince George. I will be graduating this school year and I plan on getting my degree in dental hygiene afterwards. I plan on working in more remote areas after opening my own practice to reach people who may not have access to dental care. After learning about how poor oral health can negatively affect someone's overall health, I want to make dental care available to as many people as I can.



**Tiarra Sterling**  
Lower Nicola Indian Band

College of the Rockies  
Practical Nursing

Hello, my name is Tierra Sterling. I am from a small town called Merritt and a proud member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band. I will be continuing my second year in the LPN program this year at the College of the Rockies and I am so incredibly excited to become a nurse. My goal is to work in a small community.



**Caroline Thompson**  
Tseshaht First Nation

Vancouver Island University  
Addiction Studies

My name is Caroline Thompson, and my roots are Nuuchahnulth and Haida Gwaii. I am a proud mother of two sons. I believe that obtaining a higher education is key to success. I am currently earning credits for the Child & Youth Care degree with a minor in Addictions. One goal I have is to become a social worker with youth aging out of care, and possibly become a youth probation officer as well.



**Alea Wealick**  
Tzeachten First Nation

Columbia Paramedic Academy  
Primary Care Paramedic

Hi, my name is Alea Wealick and I am from North Vancouver. I currently work for B.C. Ambulance in Boston Bar, a town just outside of Hope. I went back to school to get a higher level of licence to work closer to my home.



Andrea (Jaad ahl' K\_iigangaa), is from the Dadens Yahgu 'laanas Raven Clan, Haida Nation. She is passionate about harm reduction, community-led health initiatives, Indigenous cultural safety, and reproductive justice, and has worked with Indigenous communities across Turtle Island facilitating conversations about harm reduction, substance use and sexual wellbeing. Andrea has a background in public health and Indigenous health, specifically public health programming, policy and education, and is currently a Master of Public Health candidate at Johns Hopkins University.

**Andrea Medley**  
FNHA Scholarship Recipient

Bio on page 38



**Victoria Alfred**  
**'Namgis First Nation**

British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

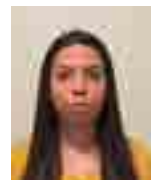
I am from the Kwakwakawa'kw nation, the 'Namgis band of Alert Bay, BC. I am beginning my second year in the BCIT Nursing program. I have a ten-year education plan where nursing school is the first step. I hope to specialize in Emergency Nursing following my BSN. I eventually would like to complete the Nurse Practitioner program and one day work with families. In my journey, I have advanced from a First Aid Attendant to Emergency First Responder to Primary Care Paramedic to now a nursing student. I firmly believe that I have found my calling in the health care setting and I am so excited to become a greater active participant in my clients' care continuum with the advancement of my training.



**Caitlyn Baker**  
**Squamish Nation**

Toronto Metropolitan University  
Bachelor of Health Sciences - Midwifery

My name is Caitlyn Baker. I am a Squamish student from the Capilano Indian Reserve No. 5 in West Vancouver, BC. I am beginning my studies as a student midwife at Ryerson University in Toronto this fall. It is my goal to graduate and provide culturally safe sexual and reproductive health care to the Indigenous community while providing the space for ceremonies and celebrations of pregnancy, birth, and postpartum. I am very thankful to have received this award that will help me through my academic journey.



**Mary Angus**  
**Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap**

University of British Columbia  
- Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Mary Angus and I was raised in Gitwinksihkw, British Columbia and come from the Nisga'a Nation. I am currently attending the University of British Columbia Okanagan campus for my Bachelor of Science in Nursing. After I complete the program, I intend on applying to Med school or furthering my nursing career as a nurse practitioner.



**Vanessa Belcourt**  
**Old Massett Village Council**

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Vanessa Belcourt. My Haida name is Kuuk Stang Jaad and I am proudly from Haida Gwaii. I am currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Social Work program at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. I am specializing in Indigenous child welfare, with aspirations of rectifying the over-representation of Indigenous children in the foster care system. I plan to work in the system in a holistic and anti-oppressive manner.



**Selena Blake**  
**Skidegate Band Council**

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My ancestral name is T'aaguu Hlgaawan dyad. I am from the K'aadas G a KiiG awaay Clan and a member of the Haida Nation. I developed a passion for caregiving and medicine in Skidegate, Haida Gwaii, my hometown. I witnessed family members succumb to illness at the end of their lives for most of my youth, which sparked my interest in learning about human biology and various forms of nursing. I had many relatives as role models in healthcare and knew I wanted to become a registered nurse at fifteen-years-old. I am now in the final year of my nursing program and aspire to work in public health to be more involved in the community and focus on upstream approaches to health and wellness. My long-term goal is to go back to school to specialize in perioperative nursing. I would not be where I am today without the support of my family, friends, and community. Haawa.



**Kirsten Caley**  
**Dzawada'enuxw First Nation**

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Kirsten Caley and I am currently a third-year nursing student at the University of British Columbia in the Okanagan. I was born and raised in Campbell River on Vancouver Island where I played rugby throughout high school. My future career goals include becoming a perinatal nurse who works with pregnant individuals throughout their pregnancy and birth. As well as giving back to Indigenous communities through outreach work.



**Devan Boyko**  
**Skidegate Band Council**

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Kinesiology

My name is Devan Boyko and i am from Haida Gwaii. My goal is to become a physiotherapist and help my hometown community in the future. I believe that it is important to give back what I have learned and help my community in any way possible.



**Neleah Chillihitzia**  
**Upper Nicola Indian Band**

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hello, my name is Neleah Chillihitzia, I grew up in Quilchena, British Columbia. I have always wanted to have a career in the healthcare industry and decided on attending Thompson Rivers University to become a Registered Nurse. My end goal is to work in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) because of the experience my family has had with the nurses of that specialty. They had a major impact on my family and I wish to be able to have that same impact on other families as well.



**Kristen Clair**  
Quatsino First Nation

Camosun College  
Baccalaureate of Science - Nursing

My name is Kristen Clair and I am from Quatsino First Nations located in Port Hardy on the North end of Vancouver Island. I am going into my third year of nursing school to achieve my goal of graduating with my Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Camosun College and the University of Victoria. This leads to my career goal to become a registered nurse where I want to bring back my education to my community and make an impact on Aboriginal health promoting cultural sensitivity and awareness.



**Shanyce Costain**  
T'Sou-ke Nation

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Child and Youth Care

My name is Shanyce Costain and I am a member of T'Sou-ke Nation. I have grown up in Sooke with my family and friends while learning about our traditional land and cultural practices. I have recently graduated as the Indigenous valedictorian of my class and am looking forward to beginning my first year of the Child and Youth Care Program at the University of Victoria. My goal is to work with youth and families to support them through their development.



**Katie Creyke**  
Ts'il Kaz Koh

University of Northern British Columbia  
Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program

My name is Katie, I come from the Tahltan First Nation as well as Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. I grew up in Chilliwack, B.C. and moved to Prince George, B.C. to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The nursing program that I am attending has a special focus on rural and First Nations health, which is where my passion lies. Once I graduate, my goal is to specialize in rural health nursing, bringing education on important health issues, and how to implement healthy lifestyle habits. I am now halfway through my third year, and I can say the journey has been tough, but so rewarding. I look forward to completing my degree and starting my career as a Registered Nurse.



**Latasia Commodore**  
Soowahlie First Nation

University of the Fraser Valley  
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a proud First Nations woman, from the Soowahlie First Nation. My goal as a Social Worker is to stride towards healing and creating a healthier relationship between Indigenous people and the social work practice. I want to make changes that will last for future generations to come.



**Paige Coutlee**  
Lower Nicola Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I am completing the final year of my Registered Nursing degree. My aspiration for acquiring a nursing career stems from my passion for helping others. This, in combination with my extensive background in caring for vulnerable populations – prioritizing physical, emotional, spiritual, and cultural safety – is the foundation for why I believe the healthcare profession is the perfect way for me to give back to my community. I believe mental health is an area of health that is too often overlooked, and I would like to be a part of the change in the process of eliminating that stigma. Mental health affects every population group regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or age; having said that, I am aware that mental health is a crucial component of Indigenous healthcare, and I feel privileged to have the competence to support my community in this capacity. Commitment to holistic and therapeutic support aligns well with the intimate environments that psychiatric nursing entails. To have the capacity to use my education to make a difference in not only my community but also in other communities gives me great pride.



**Jordan Dawson**  
Squamish Nation

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Bachelor of Social Work

Ha7lh skwayel, Jordan kwi en sna, tina7 chen tl'a Xwemelch'stn uxwumixw, Skwxwu7melh-ulh. An wenaxws en skwalen. Good day, my name is Jordan Dawson, I am from the Squamish Nation, and my heart feels full and happy. On the other side of my family, I am Kwakwaka'wakw and come from the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw tribe. As an Indigenous BSW student, I am passionate about mental health, holistic wellness, trauma-informed care, and culturally-based practices. My career goal is to work as a counsellor within my community, applying my Western educational knowledge and skills and more importantly, the traditional teachings that I carry. However, after completing my BSW, I plan to apply for a master's degree program in social work as the next step in my post-secondary education journey.



**Jamie Dexel**  
Nooaitch First Nation

University of the Fraser Valley  
Bachelor of Integrated Studies

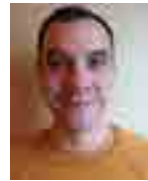
This marks the end of a six-year educational journey for me. It took a lot of sacrifices not only for myself but for my whole family. But as a mother of three children, I wanted to make sure that my children put a value on getting an education. The only way I saw this happen is by being a role model. I returned to post-secondary school eighteen years after high school. I never thought I could do it but with the support of my family, friends and community, I did it! Thank you NRTF for being part of my community and helping me reach my educational goals!



**Whitney Evans**  
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

University of British Columbia  
- Okanagan  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Whitney, I am currently living in Kelowna, B.C. I am going into my fourth year BA Physio Major GWST Minor. I also work with UBCO as a psychology research assistant. I decided to go back to school when my children got older because, as a single mom, post-secondary seemed impossible. I plan to open a holistic-based therapeutic center working with Indigenous peoples from a medicine wheel perspective. Without scholarships and bursaries like this, I would not be able to pursue my goals and dreams.



**Evan Greenall**  
Gitanmaax Band

University of Northern British Columbia  
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Evan Greenall and I am enrolled in my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work program at UNBC. I am originally from Hazelton, BC., and am a member of the Gitxsan nation. I currently live and attend school in Terrace BC. I have three children, twin four-year-old girls and a seven-year-old boy, that are at the centre of my world. I do my best to provide them with a happy and stable environment to grow up in, as I hold my duties as a father. It is for this reason that I chose to pursue social work, and more specifically, a child welfare specialization, as all children deserve a stable home life and a happy childhood. This is also why I am so grateful to both the New Relationship Trust and the First Nations Health Authority for making this award possible, as it will ultimately help relieve our financial stresses, and contribute to our happy home. Thank you so much.



**Erin Gustafson**  
Gitanmaax Band

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hello my name is Erin and I was born and raised in Kamloops. I have always known that I wanted to become a nurse and I am finally taking steps to accomplish my goal. I would like to focus my nursing career on becoming a community nurse where I feel my work will positively impact my community. I am truly grateful for receiving this award. Being a single mother, this award helps me to ensure that my family is secure while I focus on my studies.



**Angela Hance**  
Tl'etinqox Government

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a Tsilhqotin mother of two from Williams Lake, B.C. My goal is to finish my education journey and return home to help with the knowledge I will have learned. I have found that language and culture are great medicine too. It encourages me to be better and do better. Healing and promoting healing are my goals.



**Katia Haslam**  
Penelakut Tribe

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Midwifery

My name is Katia. I am finishing up my final year of The University of British Columbia's Bachelor of Midwifery. I am an Indigenous Coast Salish mama who has had a passion for maternity care for most of my life. I have always enjoyed my mother's storytelling of her births. She still glows with strength and pride when she talks about giving birth. One thing that I wish she had the opportunity of during her childbearing years was access to culturally sensitive care. When I first discovered midwifery care, I quickly knew that it was exactly what my mother was missing, it was the care I wanted for my family planning, and it was the care that I wanted to offer other parents. So here I am, and this path is filling my cup.



**Joshua Houghton**  
Squamish Nation

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Child and Youth Care

I am a full-time student at the University of Victoria in the Child and Youth in Care program. I am from the Squamish Nation and a proud First Nation. I am a single father to a handsome six-year-old boy. My goal upon graduation is to work with local First Nations organizations that focus on the advocacy and well-being of Indigenous youth. I would love to do long-term foster care for Indigenous youth while gaining experience in all areas of social work, resource work, and community healing models. This will prepare me to move forward for my master's degree which will lead me to my ultimate goal of being an Indigenous youth or community counsellor.



**Stevie Hunt**  
Kwakiutl Band Council

North Island College  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I have a three-year-old son who I love very much. My son keeps me busy and is largely my motivation for my educational journey. Upon completion of this degree, I plan to work the hours necessary to apply to a Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) route with UVIC. Following that, I would like to return to my hometown of Port Hardy and serve the three surrounding First Nations communities. This will allow being a point of contact for my people within the healthcare system as well as a practitioner versed in providing culturally competent care.



**Callison Foreman**  
Tahltan Central Government

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Aerospace Physiology

I grew up on the West Coast of British Columbia. I am a proud member of the Tahltan First Nation and I graduated from Earl Marriot Secondary School with a Double Dogwood (French Immersion) Degree. I am currently in my second year of studies at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida, where I am studying Aerospace Physiology. I am on a lacrosse scholarship at the school and play attack on our Women's Field Lacrosse Team. Lacrosse is an important way for me to connect with my heritage and I believe strongly in the spiritual and cultural power of Lacrosse, which we call the Creator's Game. Lacrosse has given me so many opportunities and connected me with Indigenous communities across Canada and the U.S. I am proud to have had the opportunity to compete in both the North American Indigenous Games and the World Lacrosse Championships. My ultimate goal is to attend medical school and then work as a pediatrician in First Nations Communities. I want to be able to give back to communities that have given me so much and I recognize that First Nations Communities across Canada are underserved.



**Jordan Hunt**  
Kwakiutl Band Council

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Social Work - Indigenous Specialization

Nu'gwam Sibaxola, gayutlan lax Tsakis, Fort Rupert. My name is Jordan Hunt, I grew up in my home territory Tsakis, Fort Rupert, BC, or, as the anthropologists would have us believe, "the land of the head-hunters". I believe Raven must once again release the sun to bring light to the darkness and end suffering. The sun is a metaphor as in all religious texts. I hope to graduate in 2023 and move home to northern Vancouver Island to serve my community and raise my children amongst their many relatives. Together, my family and I are learning our ancestral language of Kwakwaka within our household, along with my partner of sixteen years. Through the study of Canadian history and the history of Indigenous peoples, I am quite certain that social work will not provide the necessary tools to heal from the atrocities that occurred for us to be here. I believe the healing must come from ourselves with a revitalization of our ceremonies and our relationship with the plant/fungi kingdoms while also incorporating the latest knowledge of the healing properties of plant medicines. Gilakas'laGleco GlecoHych'ca



**Kathryn Ignace**  
Skeetchestn Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Weyt-k, Kathryn Xyemetkwe Ignace ren skekwst. I was raised around the Secwepemc language and culture. I am currently entering my 3rd year of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Thompson Rivers University. This past year, I have had the opportunity to work with expecting and new mothers within the hospital and I have become very passionate about this work. When I graduate, I would like to work with expecting and new mothers both within the community and in the hospital, as this is a time in their life when they require additional support, care and education to help adjust to the changes of having a baby. Many Indigenous mothers do not have access to culturally safe and holistic health care as health care commonly focuses on western medicine. I aspire to provide Indigenous mothers and their families with access to health care that incorporates western and Indigenous knowledge.



**Hailey Josephson**  
Snuneymuxw First Nation

University of Alberta  
Bachelor of Science - Dietetics

I am currently finishing up my fourth year of a BSc with a Dietetics specialization at the University of Alberta. Beginning this spring I will move on to my final stretch of school which consists of a ten-month internship working in community health, food services, and clinical practice. Once I graduate, I hope to find a job working in diabetes management within Indigenous communities!



**Jordan Kapalka**  
Nadleh Whut'en First Nation

Camosun College  
Baccalaureate of Science - Nursing

My name is Jordan Kapalka. I am from Nanaimo, B.C., and am currently living in Victoria. I am a member of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nations. I am in my first year of nursing at Camosun College/UVIC. My goal is to graduate with my Bachelor of Science in Nursing and start my career as a registered nurse. I am hoping to specialize in either pediatric or maternity care. I have wanted to be a nurse since I was fourteen, and I am so excited to be able to share my knowledge and be an ally to my community with this career. I would like to express my gratitude to the First Nations Health Authority and the NRTF. I am extremely thankful for the support I have been given on my journey to becoming a registered nurse.



**Randi Kemp**  
Skidegate Band Council

Vancouver Community College  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I am from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii, and I am currently studying to become a nurse. My immediate educational goal is to complete the three-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, with a focus on reproductive health. My long-term educational and career goal, after gaining experience in the nursing field, is to complete a Master of Nursing/Nurse Practitioner program so I can better serve the communities of Haida Gwaii. The ultimate goal is always to return to Haida Gwaii so I can serve my home community which has so freely supported me throughout my journey to becoming a nurse.





**Khloe Lambert**  
Witset First Nation

University of Northern British Columbia  
Health Sciences - Biomedical Studies

My name is Khloe Lambert Morin, and I am eighteen years old. I am Witsuwit'en and I belong to the Likhsilyu clan in the Tse Kal K'iyikh. I am currently in the first year of my four-year program to get my bachelor's in Health Science, and my major is Biomedical Studies. I am going to school full-time, and I am not working so I can focus on my studies and do the best I can. I plan to continue my studies after I graduate and eventually become a dentist. When I first applied to this program, I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do in my future for my career. All I knew is that I wanted to work in the healthcare field and make a difference for people. Ultimately, my main goal is to provide a safe and comfortable space for Indigenous people and their health.



**Taylor Peterson**  
Tahltan Central Government

University of British Columbia -  
Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I am a proud member of the Tahltan Nation, and I identify with the Eth'eni Family and Chiyone Clan. I have always held a love and passion for the medical field and taking care of others. In the years to come, I hope to start working as an RN in remote Indigenous communities, while inspiring youth to follow their dreams and work hard for what they wish to achieve. I am honoured to have been awarded this scholarship. Without financial sponsorship, I would not be able to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse, thus I am grateful beyond words. Meduh (Thank you) so much for giving me this opportunity. I will continue to strive for success and represent Indigenous students with pride and integrity.



**Savanna Sandy**  
Williams Lake First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology -  
Bachelor of Social Work

Weyt-kp, my name is Savanna Sandy. I am a part of the Secwepemc Nation of Williams Lake, British Columbia. I am a mother to one son, and we both live in the Lower Mainland. I am now in my fourth year of the Bachelor of Social Work Program at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. When I complete this program, I plan to pursue a position with an organization committed to social justice, Indigenous human rights, and poverty reduction. Regardless of my role, I am committed to the decolonization and healing of Indigenous peoples.



**Destiny Lemp**  
Gitanmaax Band

University of British Columbia -  
Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hi, my name is Destiny. I want to be a part of my family, friends, and community's health and well-being. My goals are to successfully finish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program that I am currently in, and an MD Medicine program. I plan to equip myself with the knowledge and skills of health and well-being, to then apply to better our community's minds, bodies, and spirits.



**Karly Morgan**  
Skidegate Band Council

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Bachelor of Social Work

Karly grew up on Vancouver Island before moving to Vancouver to pursue a career in fashion; however, she quickly realized that her true passion did not lie in clothing and began to lean towards helping professions. Because of her own experiences with mental health challenges and roadblocks in government support systems, Karly had to become resourceful in getting help and a fierce self-advocate. Thus, her interest in a social work career was born. Karly transferred from KPU with a certificate in NGO and Non-Profit Studies which she graduated with distinction and she is now entering the fourth and final year of her BA in social work at NVIT. She has enjoyed learning more about her Haida First Nations culture through attending an Indigenous-focused institution and a third-year practicum with Native Court workers and Counselling. This experience has reinforced her passion for working with Indigenous clients and her interest in advocacy social work. Karly hopes to one day work with independent offices investigating complaints against government organizations so that she can affect change beyond an individual level and improve upon government policies.



**Jaden Stefanyk**  
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Social Work

I consider myself a lifelong learner who is furthering my education so that I may fulfill my calling to help my community to live a healthy life through tending to the realms of rehabilitation, education, and personal recovery. I decided to enroll in the Bachelor of Social Worker program as I have always been drawn to supporting marginalized individuals who experience barriers and are often oppressed by societal systems and structures. I believe in facilitating a person-centred approach through advocating for and empowering individuals in supporting them to reach their true potential while eliciting hope. I have always been passionate about supporting individuals and building their self-esteem and self-efficacy. I take pride and honour in serving the community. I especially have a desire to support members of the community who experience poverty, trauma, mental health and substance use disorders. As a social worker and mental health clinician, I want to evoke a path of change and healing amongst my community. I want to give back, I want to help others, I want to learn and grow so I can share my knowledge and experience to benefit others.



**Jeremy Smith**  
Yunesit'in

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Human Kinetics

I am Jeremy Smith, a proud member of the Tsilhqot'in Nation. I am from Yunesit'in, an hour away from Williams Lake. My future career goals are currently flexible, but I have plans on becoming a paramedic. Gianakaci (Thank You).



**Riley Sutton**  
T'Sou-ke Nation

Camosun College  
Baccalaureate of Science - Nursing

IY SCACEL good day, my traditional Indigenous name is TA LIAIS and my European name is Riley Sutton. I am a band member at T'Sou-ke First Nation with Pacheedaht and Irish ancestry. I am currently a nursing student. I plan to work as a nurse in my community when I graduate. I also love to travel and I hope I can travel as a nurse. I am very grateful for the support I am receiving from the New Relationship Trust Foundation.



**Adrian Van de Mosselaer**  
Whispering Pines / Clinton Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

As an avid outdoorsman, I enjoy connecting with nature and taking the time to explore the beautiful landscapes that B.C. has to offer. I currently live in Kelowna and am striving to become a Registered Nurse (RN) so that I can be there to support rural Indigenous communities within Canada as a healing component. After gathering some experience as an RN, I would like to continue my post-secondary education to complete my master's in nursing. I find the field of nursing to be inspirational as it continually develops to better serve our communities and am just sincerely very grateful for the opportunity to be attending the University of British-Columbia Okanagan to pursue a degree in nursing.

**“I would like to continue my post-secondary education to complete my master's in nursing. I find the field of nursing to be inspirational as it continually develops to better serve our communities and am just sincerely very grateful for the opportunity**

**— Adrian Van de Mosselaer**



**Christina Tsuil-menak**  
Bonaparte Indian Band

Camosun College  
Baccalaureate of Science - Nursing

My name is Christina Tsuil-menak. I am of mixed ancestry. Maternally, I am of Secwepemc and settler heritage. Paternally, I am of Métis and settler heritage. I am a single mother of two extraordinary, intelligent, and beautiful children. I will be entering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program offered at Camosun College and the University of Victoria in September 2021 to become a Nurse Practitioner. Health care has been a passion of mine for nearly two decades. This work is meaningful and I have shared many wonderful experiences with patients and staff, hearing stories from families about their history and daily life. I still remember the smiles we shared. I greatly value and admire all health care providers and have great respect for the vital roles they have within our communities. I highly anticipate becoming a part of this level of care, passion, and education.



**Quinn Van de Mosselaer**  
Whispering Pines / Clinton Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Quinn Van de Mosselaer and I come from the Secwepemc and Cree nation. I was born in Golden, B.C. and shortly after my family moved to Kelowna. I started my university education with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Biology until I decided to transfer programs to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at the University of British Columbia Okanagan in Kelowna. After graduating from nursing, I hope to do rural nursing in Indigenous communities where I can work with Indigenous people and experience different traditional practices. I currently live with my family, two dogs, two cats, compost worms, and honey bees. I enjoy activities in the forest such as hiking, trail running, and foraging, and in the winter, I have recently started backcountry skiing. I am very grateful to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for providing this opportunity to receive scholarships as I will be very busy with my studies and I will now have more time to focus on my education.



**Tunisha Baines**  
Stz’uminus First Nation

University of Victoria  
Master of Social Work

Tunisha has spent the last eight years working within the local Indigenous communities in various roles such as Preventative Youth Programming, Indigenous Family Support, and more recently a Delegated Social Worker within an Aboriginal Child Protection Agency. Tunisha is passionate about the advancement of self-determination within Indigenous communities and celebrating Indigenous resiliency, strength, and culture. Currently, Tunisha is enrolled in her Master’s of Social Work with the University of Victoria, hoping to expand her practice as a trauma counsellor utilizing her family teachings, experience, and knowledge she has been privileged to learn from the nine local Indigenous nations she currently works within. “I am incredibly grateful to the NRT Foundation and First Nations Health Authority for supporting my educational journey. The additional support will help me focus on my studies and care for my family. I look forward to expanding my knowledge and skill set and continuing to work with Indigenous communities in a good way. Huy’cep’qu”



**Megan Basso**  
Gitga’at Nation

City University  
Master of Counselling

I am extremely grateful for the support I have received from the NRT Foundation as well as the First Nations Health Authority. I am currently in my second year of my master in counselling degree, and my career goals are to decrease financial barriers to mental health support by registering as a preapproved counsellor on the First Nations Health Authority list to provide counselling for Indigenous Peoples. I am passionate about personal and professional development regarding cultural connection. I am interested in amplifying Indigenous voices and perspectives in the mental health field.



**Brenna Doolan**  
Gingolx Village Government

Trinity Western University  
Master of Arts - Marriage and Family Therapy

I come from Wilps Wii Laxha, from the Gisk’aast Clan. My mother is Sharon Barton and my father is Gerald Doolan. My Grandparents are the late Myra and Cecil Barton; and the late Samuel Doolan. My Gigi, Laura Doolan is my inspiration as she taught me what family means and provided an incredible foundation to thrive and persevere in education, career, and family. My vision is to come alongside families to support healing, growth, and change as a family therapist. I am grateful for the support of organizations like NRT and the First Nations Health Authority, as well as my family for believing in me and providing support to make it through. T’ooyaksiyniin! relevant and ethical approach.

“My Gigi, Laura Doolan is my inspiration as she taught me what family means and provided an incredible foundation to thrive and persevere in education, career, and family. My vision is to come alongside families to support healing, growth, and change as a family therapist

— Brenna Doolan



**Jack Busch**  
Nisga’a Village of Laxgalts’ap

University of British Columbia  
Master of Physical Therapy

My Name is Robert Busch and I am a Nisga’a/Gitxsan student doing my Master’s of Physical Therapy at the University of British Columbia. It is important to have Indigenous people in health care to help care for our people. My goal is to increase access to physical therapy services for Indigenous peoples. I’m excited to Graduate and help Indigenize the profession and tailor it to our people. In doing this, I plan on using my degree to work with Indigenous people in rural, remote, urban, on-reserve, and off-reserve settings. Thank you to my family, and those that have helped me along the way.



**Kleanza Cathers**  
Gingolx Village Government

Barton College  
Master of Science - Kinesiology

My name is Kleanza Cathers and I am from a small town called Kitimat in British Columbia. While I do not have a specific career goal in mind, I know that I want to use my knowledge from my master’s degree in Kinesiology to enrich the lives of First Nations youth by spreading awareness of the importance of sports, health, and wellness. I would also like to ensure that the opportunities that can be provided through sport are known and accessible to First Nations youth in Canada.



**May Elliott**  
Stz’uminus First Nation

University of Toronto  
Master of Social Work -  
Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency

My name is May (Charlotte) Elliott nee Sampson. I am grateful to come from a long line of intelligent, culturally strong Coast Salish women of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. I am blessed with three, now fully grown, children and three grandchildren. My passion is to work with children and families to support and guide their path toward their goals of health and happiness. My focus is to continue my studies in Play Therapy and begin my private counselling practice focused on supporting schools. From our past toward a bright future, we can heal together utilizing our Indigenous values as our common starting point to learn and integrate knowledge from humans from all four directions.



**Karissa Fletcher**  
High Bar First Nation

University of Saskatchewan  
Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner

My name is Karissa Fletcher and I am Secwépemc from High Bar First Nation. My passion to become a nurse came from my desire to improve health care in First Nations communities. I hope to work in a First Nations community after I graduate as a Nurse Practitioner.



**Jorden Hendry**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

University of British Columbia  
Master of Public Health

I am a mixed settler/Tsimshian and a member of the Lax Kw'alaams band. I entered the public health field because I believe that the cultural and systemic transformations that need to occur to address the health inequities of Indigenous people need to be rooted in Indigenous knowledge and values. I am committed to using my learnings from my community to help my community. Through my future work with the Cedar Project, I intend to use the research findings to provide insight into critical areas of need, and in turn influence public policy. Thanks to amazing foundations like the NRT, I can focus on this important work rather than worrying about financial burdens.



**Crystal Howard**  
Mowachaht/Muchalaht  
First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Master of Social Work - Advanced

I was born and raised in East Vancouver, I am a single mother of two amazing children, Jade (twenty-one) and Ka'leo (nine). I am improving the quality of my life by obtaining my Master of Social Work at UBC while remembering and reclaiming my Indigenous roots. I am beyond grateful to be chosen for this award as it will help substantially being a student and a mother on a student budget. I appreciate the opportunity and express it with honour. Thank you for your time and consideration. Congratulations to all the other recipients. This monetary award will have an incredible impact on me and my kids.



**Nikki Hunter**  
Bonaparte Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University  
Master of Nursing

Weyt-kp, Nikki Rose Hunter-Porter ren skwekwst te St'ucwtews re st7e7kwen. My name is Nikki Rose Hunter-Porter and I am Secwepemc First Nations from St'ucwtews, Bonaparte First Nation, within the Interior of BC. I am a registered nurse and a nursing researcher. As a Master of Nursing student, my goals are to continue to uplift the voices of Indigenous People and to be an active presence in our healthcare system to promote and advocate for safer spaces. I give thanks, Kukwstsétsemc, and hold up my hands to the community, knowledge keepers, Elders, my k'wséltkten (family), and my nursing mentors for all of the love, guidance, and support throughout my journey.



**Andrea Medley**  
Old Massett Village Council

Johns Hopkins University  
Master of Public Health

Andrea (Jaad ahl' K\_iigangaa), is from the Dadens Yahgu 'laanas Raven Clan, Haida Nation. She is passionate about harm reduction, community-led health initiatives, Indigenous cultural safety, and reproductive justice, and has worked with Indigenous communities across Turtle Island facilitating conversations about harm reduction, substance use and sexual wellbeing. Andrea has a background in public health and Indigenous health, specifically public health programming, policy and education, and is currently a Master of Public Health candidate at Johns Hopkins University.



**Dylan Hunt-Scott**  
Kwakiutl Band Council

University of Victoria  
Master of Social Work

ᑭ ilakas'la, nugwa'ā m Wolkine. Gayutłā n laᑭ Tsax is. My English name is Dylan Hunt-Scott. My father is Victor Scott who is Taku River Tlingit from Atlin Lake and my mother is Dixie Hunt-Scott who is Kwakiutl from Tsax is or Fort Rupert. I would like to thank and acknowledge the unceded Coast Salish Territories that I work on, I also acknowledge the unceded Coast Salish territories I benefit from, specifically the Stz'uminus nation for allowing me to live and thrive as an uninvited guest on their land. ᑭ ilakas'la. I am so grateful to receive this award. I am working towards getting my Master of Social Work degree with Indigenous specialization offered through UVIC. I know there is much work to be done to provide a more just and equitable experience for Indigenous people throughout all systems, especially in social work. I strive to be a part of that change. I also hope to be able to make a difference for my home community as well as the Urban Indigenous communities that I am a part of.



**Kristin Kowalko**  
Dzawada'enuxw First Nation

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Master of Social Work

Kristin Kowalko is Kwakwaka'wakw and a member of the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuwx First Nation in Ukwanelis (Kingcome Inlet) with ancestral ties to Gwayasdums (Gilford Island) and also of mixed European ancestry (Scottish/Ukrainian). Kristin completed her Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Victoria in 2015 and since then has worked as a social worker in healthcare, working primarily in community mental health and substance use services as well as youth prevention services. Kristin is excited to start her first year at UBC Okanagan's clinically focused Master of Social Work program. She is passionate about mental health and aspires to focus her clinical social work practice on youth prevention and intergenerational healing. Gilakas'la (thank you) to the New Relationship Trust Foundation as well as the First Nations Health Authority for this financial support and award. This support will help me so much in my graduate degree program. Olakalā n mu'la' (I am grateful).



**Alysha Milne**  
Kispiox Band Council

University of British Columbia  
Master of Science - Audiology and  
Speech Sciences

My name is Alysha Milne and I am from Vancouver, British Columbia. I am currently in my first year of UBC's School of Audiology and Speech Sciences program. My goal is to graduate in 2023 with a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and then continue working as a certified SLP in the school district with school-aged children who have communication difficulties. I am also considering working with post-stroke patients experiencing communication disorders or swallowing impairments. I am beyond thankful to the NRT Foundation! Through their generosity, I am on my way to fulfilling my education and career goals and making a positive contribution to the field of speech-language pathology, and to society.



**Pamela Ross**  
Tl'etinqox Government

University of Victoria  
Master of Social Work

I am from the Tsilhqot'in Nation. I am an Indigenous Social Worker committed to social justice, anti-racist, anti-colonialist, and anti-oppressive social work practice. I utilize strategies that are rooted in Indigenous philosophies, worldviews, and trauma-informed approaches. I am a Registered Social Worker (R.S.W.) with the British Columbia College of Social Workers. My career goal is to obtain a Master of Social Work Degree to become a Registered Clinical Social Worker.



**Norman Schaefer**  
Nadleh Whut'en First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
Master of Education -  
Counselling Psychology

I love to listen to people and I have a heart for others which led me to pursue a Master's in Counselling Psychology. I had many obstacles to overcome in the past two years. These challenges weighed heavily on me, but they eventually made me stronger and will help me understand the pain that others are going through. My goal is to walk beside others as life weighs down on them and they require support.



**Julian Stokes**  
Old Massett Village Council

University of Northern British Columbia  
Master of Science - Health Sciences

I had always intended to become a doctor, but amid my undergraduate studies at the University of Northern British Columbia, I discovered a similar passion for health science research. Now, I am excited to be starting my MSc in Health Sciences at UNBC, where I will be conducting research related to chronic pain management. In the coming years, I hope to make valuable contributions to the academic community and gain research skills that will assist me throughout my career. My ultimate career goal is to work as a physician and clinical researcher improving health status and healthcare accessibility in rural, medically underserved communities throughout Northern B.C. I see this as a way of giving back to the community in which I was raised, and I hope to serve as a role model for those with similar aspirations.



**Caleb Lawlor**  
Lower Similkameen Indian Band

Northern Ontario School of Medicine  
Doctor of Medicine

Hello, my name is Caleb Lawlor. In the fall, I will be starting my Doctor of Medicine at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. My pursuit of medicine stems from my passion to advocate for marginalized populations both domestically and abroad. Thus, I see working for non-government organizations or becoming a member of the Canadian military as very realistic career options for me. At home, I want to be an advocate for Indigenous health and well-being, focusing on Indigenizing medicine to make it more welcoming and relevant to Indigenous individuals throughout Canada. Eventually, I would like to settle down and pursue a career in rural emergency medicine so that I may bring this type of accessible healthcare to rural, remote, and Northern populations, creating a system that is equitable for all. I am beginning a lifelong dream, but it is not without expenses. Thus, I want to extend my sincerest "Thank you" to the New Relationship Trust Foundation and the First Nations Health Authority for your generous support as it is tremendously helpful to me in the pursuit of my personal and academic endeavours.



**Tina Nash (Creyke)**  
Tahltan Central Government

University of Calgary  
Doctor of Medicine

My name is Tina Nash (Creyke) and I am a member of the Tahltan First Nation. I am a mother to eleven children and a grandmother to five. I am currently enrolled in my first year of medicine at the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. I am a psychologist and decided to pursue medicine so that I could move back home to the Tahltan Territory and finish out my life as a family physician working with, and serving the Tahltan people. I have always wanted to become a physician since I was a child but life took me in other directions. Those experiences have grounded me in understanding the mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of the self. Now I am coming full circle in learning about the physical aspects of the self through medicine. When I am done medical school, I will move back home and practice medicine from a truly holistic perspective and in doing so, reconnect with my home community, family and northern ways of life. I am excited to be on this journey at fifty-one years of age and I am grateful for the opportunities and support I have been blessed with.



**Shandel Kaiser**  
Prophet River First Nation

Capella University  
Doctor of Philosophy - Psychology

Shandel Kaiser, a mother of two, born and raised Yukoner. Shanny holds a BA in Psychology and Criminology, a Master's in Psychology, and various certifications in maternal and infant mental health and well-being, and she is currently completing her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology. Through her education, Shanny has established Raising Littles and Postpartum Support Yukon. It is through these organizations that Shanny hopes to promote connected caregiver-child relationships and support families in laying a strong foundation for positive childhood outcomes throughout the life course. Shanny believes that by furthering her education, she will be able to accomplish her goals and support many families during the early years.



**Priscilla Lawson-Pires**  
Heiltsuk Tribal Council

University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Medicine

I am currently a first-year medical student at UBC. I have chosen to pursue a career in medicine because I want to play a role in transforming the healthcare system to address the inequities experienced by Indigenous peoples when seeking primary care. I look forward to working with fellow Indigenous physicians and allied healthcare workers on this collective goal. During my studies, I hope to support prospective Indigenous medical students on their journey into medicine as a way to pay forward all the mentorship I have received along the way. Thank you to the NRTF and First Nations Health Authority!



**Brooke Mounsey**  
Simpcw First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Medicine

Brooke Mounsey ren skwekwst ell te Simpcw re st'7é7kwen. I completed my Bachelor of Arts at Stanford University in 2019 with a specialization in Public Health with Indigenous Communities. I then went on to a research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health where I conducted research on Alcohol Use Disorder and participated in a health equity scholarship program. I am currently entering my second year of medical school at UBC intending to pursue a master of Public Health in the future. Kukwstsétselp ell yerí7 re stsukwsl!



**Melanie Nelson**  
Samahquam First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Philosophy - School & Applied Child Psychology

My maternal grandmother was Lucy Smith, who was from Seabird Island and married into Samahquam (St'at'imc). My maternal grandfather was Sam Jimmie from Squiala (Stó:lo). I was a teacher of Inclusive Education and Indigenous Education with VSB and NVSD in the Lower Mainland before returning to school to become a school psychologist. I started my Ph.D. in School and Applied Child Psychology while practicing as a clinician. I am training to become a registered psychologist. I am also learning traditional approaches to healing with Elder Gerry Oleman since November 2017. My dissertation is being done in collaboration with a local nation on exploring how youth are identifying and accessing mental health support in schools and the community. I am thankful to be where I am. I have a lot of work to do yet, but I am thankful to be on my journey.



“My roots are Nuuchahnulth and Haida Gwaii. I am a proud mother of two sons. I believe that obtaining a higher education is key to success. I am currently earning credits for the Child & Youth Care degree with a minor in Addictions. One goal I have is to become a social worker with youth aging out of care, and possibly become a youth probation officer as well.

**Caroline Thompson**  
NRT Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 22

# Keegan Combes

## Memorial Award



The **Keegan Combes Memorial Award** was established to honour the memory of Keegan Coombes, a 29-year-old First Nations man and a member of Skwah First Nation. He was a high school graduate, a grade 10 pianist, and a chess champion enrolled in a trades college at the time of his passing. Keegan also lived with disabilities, and was non-verbal by choice. He is remembered, missed, and loved.

Keegan passed following delayed diagnosis and treatment in hospital after an accidental poisoning in September of 2015. By sharing his story, Keegan’s legacy is helping to shape the Cultural Safety and Humility transformation currently underway in BC’s health system.

Keegan was at the start of a new chapter of his life when he passed. He had attended his first day of classes to become a construction craft worker, but was never able to go to his second. To honour Keegan’s story and the path he was on, the First Nations Health Authority has worked in partnership with Keegan’s caregiver and family advocate, Rhianna Millman, to name one Scholarship and two Bursaries dedicated to supporting other First Nations students as they embark on their learning journey.



### Mallory Andres Katzie First Nation

University of the Fraser Valley  
Indigenous Studies

I am Mallory, a two-spirited person of ᑕᐢᑕᐢᑦ (Katzie). I am pursuing Indigenous Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley to further my understanding of the histories, traditions, and knowledge of our people. I plan to apply my studies towards becoming an Indigenous Support Worker to encourage the cycle of intergenerational knowledge carrying and Indigenous educators within the school system. When I am not working on my studies, I try to express myself creatively through various art formats like traditional flat stitch beading, painting, digital compositions, clay sculpting, and film photography. I’m grateful for the resources my educators have given me and thankful to the NRT Foundation for providing me with this scholarship and opportunity.



### Sam Preissl Leq’á:mel First Nation

West Coast College of Massage Therapy  
Registered Massage Therapy

My name is Sam Preissl and I am Sto:lo from Leq’a:mel First Nation. I grew up on Burnaby Mountain, also known as Lhuᑕw’lhuᑕw’áyten in Skwxwu7mesh sníchim. I spent most of my adolescence exploring nature. Some of my favourite activities to do are biking, hiking, and skiing. I have a large family and enjoy talking, laughing and connecting with people. I was drawn to massage therapy as I have a love for helping others, and I hope once I graduate that I can help those who are elderly or living with

chronic pain. In the future, I am interested in opening-up clinics in remote areas to help serve Indigenous communities and underserved populations. I hope to make our communities stronger and healthier by providing fair, safe and better access to health services and therapies. I feel very motivated in this program and I am excited to advance both my knowledge and understanding of massage therapy. I want to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation and the Keegan Combes Memorial Bursary for their support. ‘Kw’as hoy’ to everyone involved.



### Mark Connelly Seabird Island Band

University of Northern British Columbia  
Bachelor of Social Work

The son of divorced parents, I was constantly bounced back and forth between homes. Going to a total of eleven different schools before I graduated. Going through these years was not easy but it has given me a wealth of people skills that have supported me to this day. In grade eleven I started working at earls, and twenty years later I worked my way up to being chef and general manager, working and managing restaurants with over a hundred staff and millions in sales. In 2017, I had to transition away from that field and start university to become a social worker. Life redirections are not always easy but have always embedded a learning opportunity to become a stronger better person. I am about to graduate with my degree in social work and intend on getting my Master’s in Social Work. There were nineteen years between high school and university and the road has been challenging to say the least. I am thriving with a 3.8 GPA and looking forward to the rest of the journey.



## Coastal GasLink

The Coastal GasLink project is a 670-kilometre provincially regulated pipeline that will safely deliver natural gas from northeastern B.C. to the LNG Canada facility in Kitimat, B.C. Coastal GasLink is committed to supporting opportunities for Indigenous individuals and communities to access training and education that advances their goals and priorities. The Coastal GasLink Indigenous Community Legacy Award is intended to contribute toward the long term educational goals of students affiliated with First Nation communities impacted by the Coastal GasLink project.

Coastal GasLink supports learning opportunities for Indigenous people through training, education and workforce development. By supporting Bursaries and Scholarships awarded through the New Relationship Trust Foundation, Coastal GasLink hopes to advance the educational needs identified by Indigenous communities to foster long-term, positive change and to leave a positive legacy within communities.



**Danielle Wall**  
Wet'suwet'en

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Nadut'en Language Fluency

Hadih, siy Danielle sadnee. I am a member of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation in Burns Lake, BC. I completed the Naduten/Witsuwit'en Language Fluency Program in November 2021. I plan on completing the two-year Language Fluency Degree Program in January 2022 and then obtaining my bachelor in education. I want to continue teaching the Witsuwet'en language and culture in the school district.



**Genevieve Martin**  
Nak'azdli Whut'en

College of New Caledonia  
Accounting and Finance Diploma

Hadi. My name is Jenny Martin. I am a proud Nak'azdli Whut'en member and was born into the Lusilyoo Clan. I am taking a two-year Accounting and Finance diploma program through the College of New Caledonia. I plan to continue learning to earn a Bachelor of Commerce with a major in accounting. My ultimate goal is to become a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). With the lack of skilled help in the north, I would love to assist many different First Nations with their accounting programs. Snachailya New Relationship Trust Foundation. Awetza.



**Heather Holland**  
Witset First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Nadut'en Language Fluency

My late father was a fluent speaker but due to the negative effects of the Residential School which he attended for ten years; he did not teach us our language. This allows me to become a fluent speaker of our language and revitalize our language in a good way. I want to be able to speak and teach this to not only my children but to our future generations. This connects to our culture, identity and ways of living as strong Nedut'en/ Wet'suwet'en People and I feel honoured to be a part of such an amazing program and cohort. I am learning to be a fluent speaker and honour my late father, my family, and my children. I am humbled to be selected by New Relationship Trust Foundation for this Bursary within language revitalization and recognizing the importance of First Nation culture and language. I appreciate this so much! Missi- Cho. Respectfully, Heather Holland.



**Desiree Louis**  
Stellat'en First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies

Desiree is Dakelh and Cree-Metis from Northern Alberta. Her academic focus is on Indigenous studies, law, and coastal ecology. Her experience to date has included working with a Canadian NGO in Latin America. Desiree was student body president for two consecutive years while attending Coast Mountain College in Prince Rupert, BC. As well as a delegate for the National Aboriginal Caucus through the Canadian Federation of Students. She has been awarded academic achievement awards from the University of British Columbia, Irving K Barber Scholarship Society, Indspire, and the Assembly of First Nations.





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.



**Andrew Dexel**  
Nooaitch First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Nl̓eʔkepmx Language Fluency

My name is Andrew Dexel, and I am Nlaka’pamux from Nooaitch First Nation, B.C. where I reside with my wife and three children. I am an artist by trade and have been studying the Nlaka’pamux pictographs for several years which has ignited my interest to learn the Nl̓eʔkepmx language. My educational goal is to continue to the four-year language degree in hopes of eventually sharing my knowledge and revitalizing the language with Nation members. Thank you NRTF for the contribution to my educational goals, I am grateful for the support and encouragement. kʷukʷscémxʷ





The BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI) is the voice of the B.C. forest industry. B.C.'s forest industry is adapting, evolving and innovating, and continues to be one of the most significant economic drivers in the province and the largest producer of softwood lumber in Canada.

COFI members produce lumber, pulp and paper, panels and engineered wood products at facilities across the province. All share a commitment to a future based on sustainable forestry and manufacturing practices, innovative product development and employee safety.

COFI awards are given out as three Bursaries to students from BC First Nations who are studying in Forestry related programs.

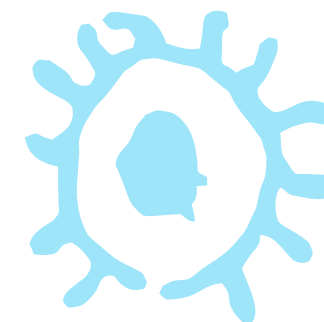


**Jonathan Cardinal**  
**Esk'etemc**

Squamish Nations Training & Trades Centre

Introduction to Construction Worker

My name is Jonathan Cardinal. I am a proud Esk'etemc First Nation member and I have struggled for thirty-one years to find and build myself. Although I was born in Vancouver, I was raised in foster care all over the province. My goal is to become a Red Seal Electrician, build my own business, and bring benefits to my First Nations community. This is a five-year journey that combines formal coursework with on-the-job training. The first step in pursuing this career is the Introduction to Construction Program which gives me an overall understanding of all trades. I am an active person interested in professional challenges at all times, and the complexity and the continuous challenge in the trades field are what fascinates me and what I love most. My community takes pride in any of its members who do their best to advance and better themselves, learn skills that will help the community, and pass on knowledge and examples to the generations to come. My education will able me to provide for my family, raise kids and teach them the importance of getting an education.



**Jody John**  
**Shackan Indian Band**

University of Saskatchewan  
Kanawayihetaytan Askiy Certificate

I am in the Kanawayihetaytan Askiy (KA) Program which is a Land Management Certificate Program. I do plan on working at my Band Office in the lands department which will help my community in so many ways because at the moment we do not have one. Since I've been in this program, I have learned so much more than I had already known about lands. I can't wait to pursue my accomplishments in my community.



**Dorothy Stewart**  
**Witset First Nation**

Native Education & Training College  
Human Resources Assistant

I am a fifty-two-year-old First Nations woman from the Witset First Nation located thirty km West of Smithers, British Columbia. I am an off-reserve band member that resides in Prince George, British Columbia. I have been out of school since May 1996, when I finished my Administrative Assistant Certificate at the College of New Caledonia located in Prince George, British Columbia. Upon completion of my Administrative Assistant Certificate, I re-entered the workforce with my schooling under my belt. Fast forward to 2021, I am completing my online studies so that I can re-enter the workforce with a diploma added to my resume. I am excited to go after this new career, acquire new skills and meet many more people along the way on my professional journey. Thank you NRT Foundation for believing in me and helping me reach my goals. I am truly honoured and blessed by this award. I will make you proud. Mussi Cho.



Land Title and Survey Authority of  
British Columbia Scholarship

Formed in 2005, the Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia (LTSA) is a publicly accountable, statutory corporation responsible for operating the land title and survey systems of BC. These systems provide the foundation for all real property business and ownership in the province.



**Samantha Allan**  
Neskonlith Indian Band

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

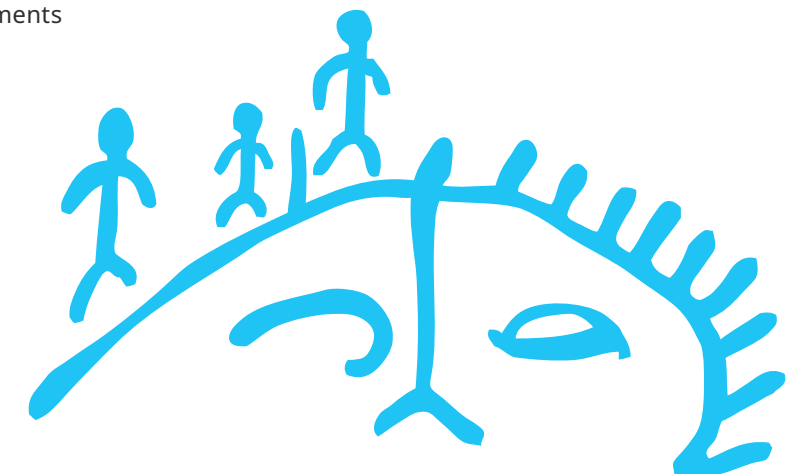
Samantha Allan ri7 ren skwekwst. Sk'Emsin te Secwepemc re st'e7e7kwen. Te Snuneymuxw re mumt-wen. Samantha Allan is Neskonlith from the Secwepemc Nation and lives on the traditional unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw People. She is a third-year Bachelor of Business Administration student at Vancouver Island University majoring in Management and minoring in Indigenous Studies. From 2020-2021 Samantha served as the Provincial Sales Coordinator for Motive, Word, & Pen, a B.C.-based, youth-founded, non-profit writing collective that worked to elevate the platforms of locally owned businesses. For 2021-2022 Samantha has been serving as the Project Lead for VIU's Co-Curricular Record, the university's official non-academic transcript, and she has been appointed to the Youth Advisory Board at REES, a simple, secure, Canadian and woman-owned online platform for reporting sexual violence at post-secondary institutions. On campus, Samantha is a 'Su'luqw'a' Community Mentor for VIU's Indigenous student population, and she has been appointed to both the VIU Senate's Indigenous Commitments Committee & the Sexual Conduct Education Response Committee. Yiri7 stsuks. Kukwstsétsemc.



**Michelle Joseph-Shaw**  
Witset First Nation

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

Hello, my name is Michelle, I am Wet'suwet'en and Cree. My clan is Laksilyu (small frog) and I belong to the house of many eyes. I am Currently in my third year at Thompson Rivers University. I am working towards completing a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Human Resource Management. I plan to pursue further studies in law and use a combination of business skills and law to lead future generations in the right direction. I am Motivated, passionate, and determined to find a career where my skills and capabilities make a difference. I am very delighted and grateful to be receiving this scholarship. I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for doing a tremendous job supporting Indigenous students like myself.





**Wendy Florence Manson**  
**Snuneymuxw First Nation**

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Wendy Florence Manson and I am a member of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. I reside on reserve with my husband and two daughters. My career goal is to obtain fulfilling employment that allows me to share and utilize my work experience, knowledge, and skills. Returning to school as a mature student is challenging but attainable. Thank you for your support.



**Dawson Sterritt-Aiken**  
**Skidegate Band Council**

Capilano University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Dawson Sterritt, or Xangii gan Haana in my traditional language. I was raised on a small archipelago in northern British Columbia known as Haida Gwaii. I chose to study business administration because of my passion for leadership and the ever-growing economy. I plan to manage my own organization one day, and the support I have been receiving along the way has increased my motivation immensely.



**Akimi Okabe**  
**Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap**

Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
Bachelor of Business Administration - Accounting

My name is Akimi Okabe and I am from the Nisga'a Nation. My goal is to become a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). I made a goal just over three years ago to go back to school to obtain my bachelor's in Business Administration with a major in accounting. I have been very lucky to have the support of my employer to continue with my studies. I also could not have done this without the support of my family. I hope that my two children are proud of me as much as I am of myself. After being out of school for many years, I was worried about juggling school, work, and two school-age children. I am happy with one final semester coming up, and I will have obtained the Bachelor's Degree that I dreamed of. Following that, I can then start the Professional Education Program within the CPA.

**“**I also could not have done this without the support of my family. I hope that my two children are proud of me as much as I am of myself. After being out of school for many years, I was worried about juggling school, work, and two school-age children. I am happy with one final semester coming up, and I will have obtained the Bachelor's Degree that I dreamed of.

— Akimi Okabe



**“**I am Secwepemc First Nations from St'ucwtews, Bonaparte First Nation, within the Interior of BC. I am a registered nurse and a nursing researcher. As a Master of Nursing student, my goals are to continue to uplift the voices of Indigenous Peoples and to be an active presence in our healthcare system to promote and advocate for safer spaces. I give thanks, Kukwstsétsemc, and hold up my hands to community, knowledge keepers, Elders, my kwséltkten (family), and my nursing mentors for all of the love, guidance, and support throughout my journey.

**Nikki Hunter**  
FNHA Scholarship Recipient

*Bio on page 38*



## Indigenous Leaders Scholarship

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**Indigenous Leaders Scholarship** is an award which is made possible through the donation of private individual who wished to honour their Parents and contribute to reconciliation. This individual has demonstrated a generous spirit and wishes their contribution to assist Indigenous youth with their studies.

Indigenous Leaders Scholarship will be given out to an Indigenous Medical Student who identifies as female and is in their second year of studies or further.



## Josie Duncan Xatśúll First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Midwifery

Weyt-kp, my name is Josie Duncan and I am a member of the Xatśúll First Nation. I have Indigenous and Austrian ancestry on my mother's side and Scottish and Lithuanian ancestry on my father's side. It is my privilege to be living, studying, and working on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people, also known as the University of British Columbia Vancouver Campus. My grandmother, Alice Vogler, attended St. Joseph's Mission Residential School on Secwépemc territory near Williams Lake, BC. Growing up in Lac La Hache, BC, has given me firsthand experience of what it is like to lack access to adequate and culturally competent health care in my community. I am entering my second year in the Bachelor of Midwifery Program and I am working towards bridging the significant gap in care within rural communities. I am also passionate about social and reproductive justice, informed choice practice, and deconstructing racial inequalities within healthcare institutions.





Peace Hills Trust is Canada's largest and oldest First Nations owned federally regulated financial institution, and is also Canada's only independent Trust Company. Driven by a vision to satisfy the unique financial needs of the Indigenous community, our sole shareholder, the Samson Cree Nation embarked on an ambitious project in 1972 which culminated with the incorporation of Peace Hills Trust on November 19, 1980. 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 vision of the founding members who worked hard to get our Company set in motion.



**Melida Argueta**  
**Gitsegukla First Nation**

Coast Mountain College  
 Business Administration

I am Melida Argueta, a member of the Gitksan Nation located in Northern BC. I am currently enrolled in Coast Mountain College's Business Administration program. Before enrolling in college, I was employed at the Administration Office as an assistant in my community for five years. It was there that I met an inspirational individual that modelled such professionalism and a great understanding of the office, which sparked my drive to further my education in business. After achieving my educational goals, I plan on working in one of our surrounding communities at a higher capacity.





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's mission is to invest in the capacity development and transformation of First Nations governments and their citizens.

Our vision is a British Columbia where First Nations enjoy a high quality of life that includes vibrant cultures and languages, effective and independent governments, social justice, and economic prosperity, and where all forms of education are valued and accessible.

We believe in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that respects and advances First Nations' decision-making, traditional teachings, and laws. To achieve our Vision, the following Guiding Principles inform our shared work:

- Supporting First Nations in their capacity development efforts as they pursue individual and communal self-sufficiency
- Engaging in effective communications and engagement with those that we serve to strengthen and inform our activities
- Ensuring fair and equitable access to our services through the creation of transparent criteria that focus on initiatives that lead to measurable change at the individual, community and Nation levels
- Increasing the investment fund through responsible management, leveraging of our assets and pursuit of additional resources while not duplicating or replacing existing government or First Nations programs

“My name is Brittany Morrison, I am a first nations woman from the Gitksan territory of northern BC, in Kispiox. My goal is to be able to help those in need within my community and most definitely help youth to go into post-secondary and sports. I would love to see more young Indigenous youth/adults succeed.

**Brittany Morrison**  
NRT Bursary Recipient

*Bio on page 88*



**Karalee Antoine**  
Saik'uz First Nation

Douglas College  
Criminology

My name is Karalee Antoine. I am from Vancouver, B.C. I am currently at Douglas College in the Criminology Program. I am also a player on the Douglas College Women's Basketball team. My career goal is to one day be a part of the Vancouver Police Department as an officer. I hope to be a positive role model for Indigenous people and youth within Vancouver.



**Coral Baird**  
Tsawwassen First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

?ay sweyəl (Good Day), my ancestral name is Setsemyə. I reside in my community with my two children. I am currently enrolled at SFU studying my ancestral language həńǵəmińəń, in the Indigenous Language Certificate Program. I believe it is of the utmost importance, to revitalize the həńǵəmińəń language, and to carry on the teachings of my ancestors. I am very passionate about sharing my knowledge and understanding of colonialism, intergenerational trauma, language, and culture. This broadly breaks down each part of our journey as First Nations people upon first contact. Rejuvenation of language and culture is what I believe makes a healing journey come back in a full circle. Culture has saved my life. My lived experiences are a significant piece of the work that I do. Advancing my post-secondary education has ignited immense positivity in myself and my surroundings so I am forever grateful.



**Breeann Baker**  
Squamish Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

Breeann Baker is from the Skwxwú7mesh and Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation. Shortly after graduating high school, and received a certificate in Skwxwú7mesh Language Proficiency. The following summer, after receiving her certificate, she was hired as a language intern alongside the Tseil-Waututh Nation for a language intensive at an immersion-based house on the Burrard Reservation. Following the end of her contract with SFU, she continued working alongside Kwi Awt Stelmexw full-time as a Language Coordinator during her second summer intensive. Breeann is currently a student once again taking the Skwxwú7mesh Language Diploma Program while continuing to work alongside KAS part-time. She hopes to continue gaining fluency in her language and learning more about her culture while improving her skills to assist KAS with any tasks at hand.



**Daunte Baker-Paull**  
Squamish Nation

Squamish Nations Training & Trades Centre  
Introduction to Construction Worker

My parents are Amber Oates (nee Paull) and Desmond Baker, my grandparents are Johanna and John Paull from my mother's side and Beatrice Baker from my dad's side. My long-term goal is to continue my trade education in construction and get my red seal to own my own company. My short-term goal is to be gainfully employed so I can get my own place to live by 2022.



**Jaiden Baker-Schmelzel**  
Squamish Nation

Langara College  
Recreation Leadership

My name is Jaiden Baker, I am from the Squamish and Nisga'a Nations. I aspire to become a leader in recreation and work with Indigenous youth. I would like to help youth develop and maintain healthy lifestyles within the following areas as a recreation camp leader, a gymnastics coach or a dance choreographer.



**Crystal Barton**  
Laxgalts'ap Village Government

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Associate of Arts - Criminology

Aama Sa as n'isim, Majaglaeemlaxdax, Ksim Ganada Niiy, Wilps Ni'isJoohl. Laxgalts'ap wil wigtwiy' ii Burnaby wil jogay'. I am thirty-nine years old, I am happily married to my husband Clint of eight years, and together for eighteen. We have three beautiful children, Kelli, Keenen, and Raegan. I am in my last Semester at NVIT for the Associate of Arts Degree in Criminology. My career goal is unknown at this time as I am giving my full attention to school and trying to figure out the best fit for a career in the criminology/law field. My passion first and foremost is to help my Indigenous brothers, sisters, and youth in any possible way. Our people are on the rise and I would love to have the education behind me to help in any way I can. getting an education and learning is priceless, we as Indigenous people must continue to heal from colonization, Residential School atrocities, and rise in this world to be seen as equal.



**Shantel Bent**  
Takla Lake First Nation

Career City College  
Business Management Diploma – Accounting

I am an Okanagan/Carrier Sekani/Dene Woman. I live in Kelowna, B.C. Taking business admin with a specialization in accounting. I love working with numbers and problem-solving. My goals are to open up my own company that helps construction businesses, big or small. Thank you so much for choosing me.



**Dustin Blows**  
Squamish Nation

British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Technology Support Professional

My name is Dustin, I was born in Surrey B.C. and I am from the Squamish Nation. I have always been fascinated by technology, but I have never really understood how things work. I am making a career change and chose this program as an entry point into the IT world. My goal with this program is to take away a solid foundation of technical skills and practical knowledge so that I can continue to build upon it and eventually branch into a cyber security specialization. I feel I have a duty to help protect the world against hackers and scammers as they are becoming increasingly more malicious. Thank you NRTF for your support!





**Jacqueline Brooks**  
Cowichan Tribes

Vancouver Island University  
Early Childhood Education

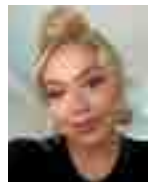
Jacqueline Brooks is from the Cowichan Tribes First Nation. She is currently enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Program. Jacqueline is excited at the opportunity to work with children and be part of their developmental activities.



**Andrew Brown**  
Heiltsuk Tribal Council

Native Education College  
Indigenous Land Stewardship

I am Andrew Brown and I come from the Heiltsuk Nation. I am currently taking the Indigenous Land Stewardship program at NEC in Vancouver. My career goals are to help take care of the environment and to decolonize myself in the process.



**Madison Brown**  
Old Massett Village Council

Langara College  
Arts & Science General

My name is Madison Brown, I am from the Haida nation. I grew up in Haida Gwaii and moved to Vancouver in May 2019. I am hoping to become a social worker, or counsellor, or attend law school and become a lawyer in the future.



**Udara Brown**  
Old Massett Village Council

Sprott Shaw College  
Licensed Practical Nursing

Hello, my name is Udara Brown, I am Algonquin and Haida. I am currently at Sprott Shaw Community College studying how to become a Licensed Practical Nurse.



**Selina Child**  
Kwakiutl Band Council

Camosun College  
Indigenous Studies

Gilakas'daxwlaNugwa'am t'u'tubidu Selina xalas suwān ugwaka. Gayutlān laxa Kwakiutl. Thank you all, my name is Little Star or Selina. I come from the Kwakiutl and I grew up on the Kwakiutl Reserve in Port Hardy B.C. I have goals to finish my Social Work Degree and become a counsellor to work with women and children. I am a proud mother of three beautiful children who inspire me daily to be a better version of myself. Thank you for this award and the continued support on my educational journey. All my relations.

**“I have goals to finish my Social Work Degree and become a counsellor to work with women and children. I am a proud mother of three beautiful children who inspire me daily to be a better version of myself. Thank you for this award and the continued support on my educational journey.**

— Selina Child



**Maya Cowpar-Mark**  
Skidegate Band Council

British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Marketing Management

My name is Maya Cowpar-Mark, I am Nisga'a and Gitxsan on my mother's side and Haida on my father's side. I live in Vancouver with my mother and have been visiting my homeland since I was small. I became very passionate about the hospitality and tourism industry over the last couple of years. I spent the past year training as a professional cook to get my level 1 with the ITA but decided to study Marketing and Tourism Management at BCIT this fall. With this scholarship, I've been given the chance to follow my dreams and pursue my desired career. I want to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for giving Indigenous youth the support and chance they need at succeeding.



**Kaitlyn Cunningham**  
Katzie First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

ʔənθə Kaitlyn Cunningham, təlli cən əł́ q'íćáy. My name is Kaitlyn Cunningham, I am from Katzie. I have been learning our traditional language hə́q'ə́m'íə́m' in my community since I was five years old. We have a handful of language knowledge keepers who have kept the small spark going, but now it is time to stoke the fire. My career goals have always been to help revitalize our language in any way that I can. I have been teaching it to the youth in my community for the last thirteen years. I am currently in post-secondary classes for hə́q'ə́m'íə́m' and have learned so much. As Indigenous people, we constantly face the barrier of not

having access to our language and traditions. I would like to create hə́q'ə́m'íə́m' teaching materials that anyone who would like to learn can access. We can do this by introducing more technology into language teaching. We need to create and hold space for youth so they can learn about their culture and language while utilizing tech, apps, social media, etc. and this is what I want to do.



**Cassie Dan**  
Lil'wat Nation

Capilano University  
Associate of Arts - Psychology

My name is Cassie Dan, I am from the Lil'wat Nation, and I was born and raised in Mount Currie, B.C. My career goal is to become a therapist for my community so they have a local resource.



**Kiera Davis**  
Old Massett Village Council

Langara College  
Associate of Arts - Aboriginal Studies

My name is Kiera Davis. I am from Haida Gwaii and am currently in the Aboriginal Studies Program. I chose this program because I have always had a passion for learning more about Indigenous issues and cultures in Canada. Once I finish my program, I will enroll back in the psychology program and work towards getting my degree.



**Kono Douglas**  
Squamish Nation

UA Piping Industry College of BC  
Piping Foundations

I am a direct descendant of the Squamish Nation. My family ties are the Williams/ Paulls from my mother's side and Douglas/Joseph from my father's side. My parents are Crystal Ricketts (nee Paull) and Kono Douglas Sr. My grandparents are the late Johanna (nee Mission) and Johnny Paull, and Byron and Brenda Joseph. My great-grandmother from my father's side is the late Margaret Douglas. My long-term goals are to get my red seal in plumbing and secure a full-time job where I can build my skills to own a plumbing company. My short-term goals are to join the piping union and secure full-time employment with the Squamish Nation as a plumber. I am grateful for the opportunities ACCESS has provided me including the financial and tuition fees to obtain my certificate in the piping foundations program.



**Vernon Dudoward**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

Native Education College  
Family & Community Counselling

My name is Vernon Dudoward. My traditional name is Gā no'ots'n Gibau. I come from Kitsumkalum / Lax Kw'Alaams B.C., Tsimshian Nation. My career goals are to become a social worker. I am currently enrolled in my first year of the Family & Community Counselling program.



**Mary-Jane Edgars**  
Old Massett Village Council

Langara College  
Criminology

My name is Mary Jane, I am from a little island off the West Coast of British Columbia called Haida Gwaii. My career goal is to get my degree and Master's in criminal justice to do my part regarding the issues involving the missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada. My community has had a young woman go missing and it has now been over a year. It is sad to see that there is nothing actively being done to help find her.



**Holly Fenton**  
Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nations

Sprott Shaw College  
Business Administration Bookkeeping

My name is Holly Fenton and I am from Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation. I have completed my Business Administration Bookkeeping Program and plan to start my own business.



**Kayla Fisher-Boyd**  
Gitxaala Nation

Native Education College  
Health Care Assistant

My name is Kayla Fisher-Boyd (Innes). I am from Gitxaala Nation, I am from the killer whale tribe. I am in school right now working towards becoming a Health Care Aide. My goal is to complete this course and work as a care aide for a few years and go back to school later on to become an LPN. I have wanted to work in the health care sector for a long time and I'm finally doing it!



**Jared Fontaine**  
Tseshaht First Nation

Vancouver Film School  
Sound Design For Visual Media

My name is Jared Fontaine. I am from the Tseshaht First Nation in Port Alberni. I am a Vancouver-based music producer and audio engineer. After being selected for a considerable scholarship from the Vancouver Film School for their Sound Design for Visual Media diploma program, I have been given the opportunity to take my career to the next level. Through this extensive training, I will have access to a career in Vancouver's bustling and ever-growing film, television and video game industry.



**Kayla Gambler**  
Dzawada'enuxw First Nation

Douglas College  
Youth Justice

I am a descendant of the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw tribes of Kingcome Inlet, British Columbia, and the Anishinaabe of Pine Creek First Nation, Manitoba. I plan to transfer into the Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care in the third year. In recent years I have had the pleasure of working for two non-profit organizations in Vancouver, BC, that provide services to the Indigenous community and residents of the Downtown East side of Vancouver. Through these organizations, I have gained a wealth of knowledge and experience. I would like to further my education to build on the practical skills that I have gained. My goal is to work with vulnerable and high-risk Indigenous youth. I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of this award and would like to thank the NRT Foundation for providing me with the support to reach my educational goals!



**Katherine Garay**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

Langara College  
Arts and Science Commerce

My name is Katherine Garay and I was raised in Vancouver BC. I am currently enrolled at Langara College and I plan to pursue my bachelor's at UBC Sauder School of Business.



**Hunter Gladstone**  
Heiltsuk Tribal Council

Capilano University  
Outdoor Recreation Management

My name is Hunter Gladstone and I am from the Heiltsuk Nation. I am currently in my second year of the outdoor recreation management diploma program. I have always loved being in the outdoors and I would like my career path to take me to a position where I can work in the outdoors. I do want to obtain a degree upon completion of this diploma and I hope to transfer to either SFU or UBC.

“My goal is to work with vulnerable and high-risk Indigenous youth. I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of this award and would like to thank the NRT Foundation for providing me with the support to reach my educational goals!

— Kayla Gambler



**Nikkayla Gladstone**  
**Skidegate Band Council**

Vancouver Island University  
 Resource Management  
 Officer Technology

I grew up on Haida Gwaii surrounded by love and family members who taught me the importance of protecting the land, water and people of Haida Gwaii. I am currently enrolled in the Resource Management Officer Technology program at Vancouver Island University with plans of transferring into my bachelor's degree in natural resource protection. After I graduate post-secondary, I plan on taking everything I've learned back to Haida Gwaii and not only sharing my knowledge with others but contributing to the protection of my home and people.



**Roberta Gosnell**  
**Gitlaxt'aamiks**  
**Village Government**

College of New Caledonia  
 Office Assistant and Nisga'a  
 Language Fluency

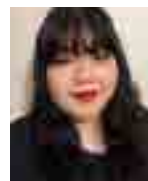
My name is Roberta Gosnell, I come from the Nisga'a Nation, living in Gitlaxt'aamiks. My career goal is to become a C.F.O. (Chief Financial Officer). I have completed my ABT-Office Administration certificate this year with the College of New Caledonia, and have since found a job in Finance that I am enjoying so far. It was a goal of mine two years ago, and now, I made another goal to become fluent in our Nisga'a Language. I have applied to WWNI, a small university affiliated with UNBC, for the Nisga'a Language Proficiency Fluency Program. Growing up, I heard our language and practiced our culture through feasts, however, since I have



**Leah Haldane-Robinson**  
**Laxgalts'ap**  
**Village Government**

University of Alberta  
 Occupational Health and Safety Certificate

My name is Leah Haldane-Robinson, from Laxgalts'ap of the Nisga'a Nation. I would like to thank NRTF for awarding me with one of their generous scholarships. I look forward to obtaining my diploma in Occupational Health and Safety to help keep the workplace safe in the industry for all tradesmen and women.



**Frances Hans**  
**Skidegate Band Council**

Native Education College  
 Indigenous Early Childhood Education

My name is Francine Hans, I am from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I want to be a teacher and I want to help influence our children to follow their dreams. My father is a Residential School survivor and he did not have a teacher to turn to when he needed. I want to be there for any child that needs it and ensure they know that "Every Child Matters".

moved away for five years, I slowly forgot parts of our language and cultural practices. I keep my grandfather's words close to my heart every day, "reach for the stars," and "continue in your education and put those degrees behind your name". My grandfather was the late Joseph Gosnell Sr., and he was the greatest man I knew who put the Nisga'a Nation on the map. For him, I will continue to work hard just as he did.



**Nadine Hoover**  
**Witset First Nation**

College of New Caledonia  
 Social Service Worker

Hi, my name is Nadine Hoover, I am from Witset, B.C. I am taking Social Work and attending the College of New Caledonia, in Prince George, B.C. My career goal is to get my bachelor's in Social Work so I can efficiently help children in my community who believe they no longer have voices.



**Margaret Joe**  
**Okanagan Indian Band**

En'owkin Centre  
 nsyilxcn Indigenous Language Diploma

I am Peggy Joe, and I am a member of the Okanagan Nation and a registered member of the Okanagan Indian Band. I have three sons and have been with my husband for twenty-six years. Now that our children are grown and on their own, we are looking forward to new adventures and opportunities that we can do together.



**Justin Kennedy**  
**Nak'azdli Whut'en**

Thompson Rivers University  
 Retail Meat Cutting

Hello, my name is Justin Kennedy and I grew up in Fort St. John British Columbia. I decided to attend the Meat Cutting course at Thompson Rivers University. By taking this course, I plan to help not only the community but also my family and friends. This course will show me how I can maximize the resources that animals have blessed us with.



**Tony Kenoras**  
**Adams Lake Indian Band**

Simon Fraser University  
 First Nations Language Proficiency

Re Skwest ri7 Tony Kenoras. I am from Adams Lake Indian Band. I recently graduated from UBC Vancouver in 2019 and I work for Adams Lake as a group exercise instructor. I am taking classes at SFU to get a Language Proficiency certification. I have two children, Sterling, who is two years old and Autumn, who is five years old. My goal is to help with language revitalization.



**Jewel Leeson**  
**Laxgalts'ap**  
**Village Government**

Douglas College  
 General Studies

My name is Jewel Leeson, I am from Laxgalts'ap B.C. My career goal right now is to become a trainer and hopefully coach youth basketball. Through this, I want to teach life skills and talk about the hard stuff that doesn't get talked about enough. I would also like to go into human services and help those struggling with addictions and poverty. And possibly along the line, I can become a counsellor of some sort. I want to provide a safe place as a trustworthy person that can provide resources, advice, a listening ear, gift cards, life lessons and ways to cope healthily.



**Hayley Levesque**  
West Moberly First Nations

Algonquin College  
Human Resources Management

I grew up in Vancouver, BC. and relocated to Ottawa, ON to pursue my post-secondary education. I am currently enrolled in a Human Resources Management Graduate Certificate at Algonquin College. My number one goal is to use my skills in Human Resources Management to find employment within a First Nations band. I would love to be involved with the everchanging governance of First Nations bands and to help the bands and community members thrive economically, spiritually, and mentally.



**Natalia Lopez**  
Okanagan Indian Band

Douglas College  
Associate of Arts

I am Natalia Lopez, I'm from Coquitlam B.C. My career goal and plan is to be a middle school or high school history teacher either within my community or abroad.



**Austin MacArthur**  
Hagwilget First Nation

Okanagan College  
Automotive Service Technician

I am a student in the Automotive Service Technician Foundation program at Okanagan College in Kelowna, BC. My career goals are to become a red seal and electric vehicle certified technician. I am passionate about having safe, reliable vehicles on the road and I am excited to continue pursuing my dream career.



**Justine Manuel**  
Upper Nicola Indian Band

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
nsyilxcen Fluency

way, i? sk\*ist qfwa?q\*isla?qin, ul isca?ma? sk\*ist, Justine Manuel, kn tl spaxmn. Hello, my name is Justine Manuel and I am from spaxmn. I am very grateful to be a recipient of this award from the NRTF. This will help greatly in my educational journey. Currently, I am pursuing my nsyilxcen Fluency Degree Program. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity to reclaim my language. With my degree, I will become a nsyilxcen language teacher. I want to create a fun and safe space for the community to learn the language. It is an important piece of our identity as Indigenous people and I feel called to bring it to life. I have had a dream to attend this program since I was a young girl and I am grateful to be a part of language revitalization. way liml?mt



**Julia McIntyre-Smith**  
Dzawada'enuxw First Nation

Langara College  
Associate of Science

G ilakasda? w'la, nugwa'a m Ik-sta mg ilaga me'. Hema n d?igame' Julia McIntyre-Smith. Nugwa'a m Musgamakw Dzawada'enuxw. Gayutla n lax Ukwanalis dlu Somba De. Hello, my traditional name means "Abalone Shell Woman". I am queer and gender non-binary. My goal with my schooling is to combine the traditional ecological knowledge that I have been learning on the land and waters in my traditional territories, with the knowledge learned in academia to create a holistic understanding of marine ecosystems. I work as a coastal canoe instructor/expedition guide when I am not in school.



**Melissa McKay**  
Laxgalts'ap  
Village Government

Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Institute  
First Nations Studies

My name is Melissa McKay, I am of Nisga'a descent and come from the House of Haymass' of the Ganada (Frog) tribe, my Nisga'a Name is Gwixx Limim Gamaats'. I currently reside in Gitwinksihlkw going to school and caring for my grandmother. I am a single mother of twin girls who are nine years old. I aspire to continue with university to complete a degree in business. As I complete my certificates in General First Nations and Nisga'a Studies, these courses will provide me with the credentials to continue with my education.



**Anita McNicol**  
Squamish Nation

CDI College  
Paralegal

My name is Anita McNicol and I live in Mission, B.C. and I am a part of the Squamish Nation. I am looking toward a career as a paralegal in the family law field. I am a wife and mother to three wonderful children and I am so grateful for the opportunity to pursue school in this new chapter of my life. The past few years have presented challenges that have shown me I was capable beyond my wildest dreams and that you are never too old to find a new passion. Thank you to the NRTF for the opportunity to be further supported in these endeavours.



**Hayley Mills**  
Skidegate Band Council

Pacific Rim Early Childhood Institute Inc.  
Early Childhood Education

My name is Hayley Mills. I am from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. As a young adult, I left my home village to experience more of the world and city life. My young family quickly realized there is nothing better than being a part of our community, and returned home. After a few years of working, I found my career as an early childhood educator. I am honoured to be an influence on our younger generation. My goal is to help educate our children with love, warmth, and respect for our culture, lifestyle, and people.



**Nevaeh Montgomery**  
Saulteau First Nation

Lakeland College.  
Agribusiness

My name is Nevaeh Montgomery and I am from the Saulteau First Nations. I am currently attending Lakeland College in the Agriculture Business program. I live in the community of Saulteau on beautiful Moberly Lake, with my grandparents. I am the proud owner of two horses and a dog. I barrel race and team rope whenever I am not working. I believe that having large animals and living on a progressive reserve that has interests in agriculture and food security for our nation has influenced my decision to earn a diploma in agricultural business. I am sincerely grateful for the support of NRTF at this time when I am focusing on my studies.



**Tryton Moody**  
Nuxalk Nation

Coast Mountain College  
First Nations Fine Arts

Hello, my name is Tryton Moody. I am from Bella Coola B.C., and I am eighteen years old. My career choice is to become an entrepreneur in the fine arts. I am now in the second year of my schooling and my goal is to complete the advanced diploma program. I am now working with a master carver to build a pole which will be erected at a new long house in our community in Bella Coola. I started my art talents when I was very young but it wasn't until I was fourteen that I started to take fine arts seriously. I am excited to move to Terrace BC. and meet my instructors since COVID interrupted that opportunity last year. Thank You for considering me for this opportunity.



**Cale Moraes**  
Skidegate Band Council

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Residential Construction

My Haida name is Gaala, and my English name is Cale Moraes. I belong to the Ts'aahl eagle clan on Haida Gwaii. I am currently enrolled in Carpentry Foundations at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.



**Dakota Morrison**  
Gingolx Village Government

Douglas College  
Criminology

I am Ganada from the village of Gingolx, and a proud member of the Ksim Xsaan wilp. I grew up close to my family and my culture in Prince Rupert, BC. I want to pursue a career in criminology so I can support our people navigate the criminal justice system.



**Kimberly Myers**  
Kitlas Indian Band, Terrace BC

Okanagan College  
Registered Massage Therapist

My name is Kimberly, I am currently living in Vernon B.C. while attending a rewarding program in Registered Massage Therapy at OVCMT. I am a single mother to two beautiful daughters. My career goals are to work together with my patients and to reach their goals of health, wellness, balance, and increasing quality of life while maintaining or improving optimal body functions. I truly enjoy this practice of one-on-one with patients concerning confidentiality and giving people a safe place to be. I live a physically active lifestyle with well-rounded experience to help many people from diverse backgrounds meet their health and wellness goals regardless of who and where they are from.



**Jameson Nyce**  
Haisla Nation

Nimbus School of Recording & Media  
Music Production, Recording & Business

My Name is Jameson Nyce and I am from the Haisla nation. I was born in Terrace, British Columbia and was raised in the Okanagan until eventually graduating from Maple Ridge Secondary School. I have always been passionate about music. I started playing acoustic and electric guitar for several years before moving on to producing electronic music on a computer. My passion is only evolving as I am currently enrolled in Nimbus School of Recording Media and Arts in the Music Production, Recording and Business program. I plan to take my passion into a career in the music industry soon. I am proud of my heritage and would like to inspire people from all walks of life with my music.



**Corrina O'Bee**  
Nak'azdli Whut'en

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Executive Assistant

Corrina O'Bee le soozi', my name is Corrina O'Bee, Nak'azdli ts'e hasya, I come from Nak'azdli, Lhts'umusyoo 'ust'oh and I am Beaver Clan. I am currently enrolled in the Executive Assistant Diploma Program with NVIT, and I plan on working on a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration within the next two years. I have always wanted to return to school to further my education. I am a forty-six-year-old mother, grandmother, wife, and proud Nak'azdli Tsekoo. I believe that the only way we can contribute to our communities is to educate ourselves to make a difference.



**Kody Olson**  
Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap

College of New Caledonia  
Electrical Foundation Program

Hello, I am Kody Olson. I Grew up in Vanderhoof BC. on a farm with my adoptive grandparents. I have recently gotten married and have started my apprenticeship with a great electrical company in Vanderhoof. I have been working for this company for about a year and now I am in my first year of schooling. I am to continue working on serving the towns and reserves near Vanderhoof.



**Alexandra Papps**  
Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Environmental Resource Technology

Hello, my name is Alexandra Papps. I am a Nisga'a woman from Laxgalts'ap. My Nisga'a name is Wi Biyaals. I am going into my second year of Environmental technology. I could not feel more supported as this bursary allows me to focus on my studies full-time. After completing my Diploma at NVIT I am planning to transfer to UNBC to finish my degree in science with a specialty in fisheries and wildlife. Being a biologist has always been a dream of mine and I did not think it would be possible but it is a goal within reach now! T'ooyaḱsiy' ḱiin!



**Meghan Parnell**  
Old Massett Village Council

College of New Caledonia  
Applied Business Technology

My name is Meghan Parnell. I am from Old Massett Village Council on Haida Gwaii. I am currently enrolled in the Applied Business Technology Program through the College of New Caledonia. I decided to go back to school at thirty-five years old and it has been a challenging adjustment. I am so proud that I decided to go back into school and that I am being so successful in it. Being able to show my children that no matter what, as long as you put your mind to something, you can achieve it and be successful. My goal is to complete my program and find a great job to showcase my skills.



**Tanaiya Pearson**  
Skidegate Band Council

Camosun College  
University Transfer

Hi, my name is Tanaiya Pearson. I am Haida from Skidegate, B.C. I belong to the Tsiits Gitanee Clan. I am attending Camosun College and plan on becoming an elementary school teacher. After teaching for a few years, I would like to further my education by obtaining a Master's Degree in psychology and work with teenagers. I would like to thank New Relationship Trust Foundation for supporting me on my educational path.



**April Pierre**  
Katzie First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
Indigenous University  
Preparation Program

I am a Coast Salish woman from Katzie First Nation. I took a huge step in life to start a new career and decided to apply to SFU. I am the first in my family to go to university. My end goal is to become an Indigenous Counsellor. I want to be able to focus on trauma counselling and substance abuse but not limited to those as there are far more problems we face as Indigenous people. Because I am a single parent and a full-time student, I am extremely grateful for the opportunities to be able to apply for scholarships/bursaries to help me during my educational journey. My goal is to be able to help my people with their mental health and give them comfort during their healing. I feel being Indigenous myself gives me a mutual understanding of many issues a non-Indigenous person may not fully understand. I recently completed my first semester successfully with good grades and plan to try my hardest through my entire educational journey and hope to inspire more Indigenous people of all ages to follow in my footsteps. a positive impact on Lily and others.



**Jacey Pollard**  
Skidegate Band Council

Camosun College  
Professional Cook Training

I am Jacey Pollard and from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. With the schooling, I have received, I will be able to work at a bakery or any other kitchen establishment near me and learn to be successful in the food industry.



**Everett Poole**  
Gitlaxt'aamiks  
Village Government

Camosun College  
Applied Chemistry and  
Biotechnology Diploma

My Name is Everett Poole, my hometown is Terrace, BC. and I am from the Nisgaa Nation. I am currently enrolled in the Applied Chemistry and Biotechnology Diploma program at Camosun College. Upon completion, I plan to complete a degree in biochemistry at the University of Victoria to complete my program and find a great job to showcase my skills.



**Austin Preissl**  
Leq'á:mel First Nation

British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Carpentry

Ey swayel mekw wat. Austin tel skwix. Tèli tsel kw'e Leq'á:mel First Nation. Good day everyone, my name is Austin and I am from Leq'á:mel First Nation. I write to you from the unceded territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. With the completion of my red seal in carpentry, I wish to use my knowledge and skills to take over and run my father's successful contracting company.

“With the completion of my red seal in carpentry, I wish to use my knowledge and skills to take over and run my father's successful contracting company.”

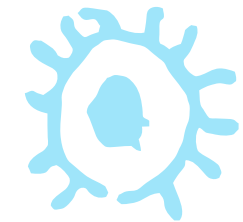
— Austin Preissl



**Alanah Robertson**  
Penticton Indian Band

Douglas College  
Associate of Arts - Intercultural and  
International Studies

I am Syilx from the Okanagan Nation. I am very passionate about learning about the different cultures, religions, and languages from around the world while staying connected to my own. I aspire to travel in support of humanitarian aid, advocacy and education. I would love to one day be able to use my knowledge and experience from around the world to create a program for Indigenous youth to have more opportunities to travel, work, and volunteer abroad.



**Jasmine Robinson**  
Gitlaxt'aamiks  
Village Government

Langara College  
Associate of Arts - English

My name is Jasmine Robinson. I grew up living on the beautiful lands of the Nisga'a Nation. One day I will be a lawyer in Criminal and Family law. It has been my plan for a long time now and I do not see it changing. I am currently working on my English degree at Langara College. After graduation, I plan to study for my LSAT and get into the law school at UVIC as they have a program that combines Indigenous and Canadian law. I am excited for what my future holds and I am so grateful for this award as it will be a huge help to me.



**Doreen Scow**  
Tlowitsis Nation

Camosun College  
Indigenous Studies

Gilakasla, Nugwa'am Tla'tla'kolth Hello, My name is Doreen Scow. I am from the Tlowitsis tribe in the Kwakwaka'wakw nation. I am currently attending Camosun College for the Indigenous studies program. After I am done at Camosun, I plan on going to the University of Victoria for the Indigenous language revitalization program. In the future, I want to become a teacher. I want to teach public schools about Indigenous peoples and do it in a good way.



**Ruth Seward**  
Squamish Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

Hello, my name is Ruth Seward. My ancestral names are qwelastena:t and Yea'klimat. I come from the Squamish Nation. My career goal would be to become a Squamish language teacher within my nation or one of the schools in North Vancouver.



**Tanya Seward**  
Squamish Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

My name is Tanya Seward. I am from the Squamish Nation, I am a single mother to a thirteen-year-old boy, and we love to be involved in our community and our culture.



**Jenny Seward**  
Squamish Nation

Squamish Nations Training & Trades Centre

Introduction to Construction Worker

I am a mother of three and I have four grandchildren. My goal is to keep learning what I need to do for myself. I have just received my certificate in Introduction to Construction.



**Hunter Silver-Kay**  
Seabird Island Band

Native Education College  
Indigenous Land Stewardship

Suskultin tel skwix. Te litset kw'e te Sq'ewqel qas te Semath. My name is Hunter Silver-Kay, I am from Kilgard and Seabird Island. I am a direct descendant of Xeyteleq and P'ekw'elhtelot. I plan on working for my people as my ancestors did. My goal is to protect our traditional areas for future generations.



**Georgina Smith**  
Tlowitsis Nation

Vancouver Career College  
Education Assistant

I have six-year-old beautiful twin boys. My current work has not been so kind to me during COVID, so I took a bad situation a turned it into a new and exciting career change. I have been serving for far longer than I like to admit, but I am looking forward to my new career as an education assistant. I am feeling extremely grateful to have the extended help that I have gotten from the NRTF. I am excited to get into the swing of my new job starting next January! Thank you for your time, efforts, and your support in funding. It will be such a help to me and my family.



**Brian Smith**  
Old Massett Village Council

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Residential Construction

My name is Brian Peter Smith, I am from Masset B.C., and I am twenty-four years old. I am currently working towards my red seal in carpentry. I am currently in my first year and I have three more years of work ahead of me. I love what I am doing for work and I love that I work to improve my community as I have lived here all my life.



**Brittany Spooner**  
Toosey First Nation

Career City College  
Business Management Diploma – Human Resources

My name is Brittany Spooner and I was born and raised in Williams Lake British Columbia. I am a Tsilhqot'in from the Toosey community. I have recently completed my Human Resource Management Certificate with SFU and am currently enrolled in the Business Management Human Resources Specialization Diploma program with Career City College. My end goal is to obtain my CPHR and to become an HR representative that helps Indigenous organizations and communities with human resource management. I want to contribute my knowledge to help with their economic development. Thank you so much to the New Relationship Trust Foundation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. You have made my schooling and career journey that much better.



**Isabelle Stager**  
Lil'wat Nation

Capilano University  
Associate of Science - Biology

My name is Isabelle Stager, I am from the Lil'wat Nation and my traditional name is Kakwikwes. My career goal is to become a teacher and I plan to return home and work at my community school.



**Francine Stewart**  
Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap

Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Institute  
First Nations Studies

My name is Francine, I am from the Nisga'a Nation. I have always been interested in learning to speak our language fluently and over the years I have joined non-credited courses. Most recently, I was fortunate enough to be accepted into the Nisga'a fluency course. I have been at an all-time high since starting the program. My goal is to complete the Fluency program with a Bachelor's degree. My dream is to fully converse with our Elders as they have said numerous times, "our language heals", and I am sure feeling it because I am left feeling so spiritually full after each Elder guest speaker! I am overwhelmed with gratitude for this amazing opportunity. I am looking forward to completing the Nisga'a Fluency BA program so that I can begin teaching in our school system. I complete this term in the second week of December 2021 and begin the new year in January.



**Jeremy Stewart**  
Metlakatla First Nation

British Columbia Institute of Technology  
Metal Fabrication

Hello, my name is Jeremy T Stewart and I come from a small town up north in BC. called Prince Rupert. I graduated from high school in 2014 and moved to Vancouver B.C. shortly after and have been a resident of the city since then. I took an auto service technician course at VCC but was not able to finish my training due to financial problems and have been working full time since. This year, I finally felt comfortable attending schooling again for trades and have been accepted into BCIT for the Metal Fabrications Foundation course which I will finish in late November to early December. Once I finish my course, I aim to get apprenticed so I can finally start my career in the trades. The dream company I would like to work for is SeaSpan in North Vancouver.



**Daniel Stewart**  
Old Massett Village Council

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Residential Construction

I am from Haida Gwaii and have lived here all my life. I am starting on a long course that my village is putting on to get a red seal. I have been enrolled in a carpentry course that I started last year and am now working on getting hours towards getting my red seal.



**Kallen Tait**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

Vancouver Community College  
Heavy Mechanical Trades Foundation

I love working with my hands and I have future goals of becoming a heavy-duty mechanic. I want to move back home to help out my community or the surrounding area.



**Robyn Tardif**  
Shuswap Indian Band

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

Weyt-kp , re skwest ri7 Robyn Tardif. S77ek ke te Kenpes7t (Invermere). I am currently taking the Secwepemc Proficiency Language Program with Simon Fraser University. I am a multimedia artist who is passionate about sharing knowledge. In the future, I hope to further my studies by getting a teaching degree and getting a Master's in Fine Art. I hope to teach people a combination of art and language.



**Lilly Teare Cunningham**  
Katzie First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
First Nations Language Proficiency

My goal is to become a knowledge keeper for my community. I started my journey with SFU halfway through my grade 11 year of high school. I am now in grade 12 and have finished my first year of university. I am moving on to the next four years as I am starting my diploma and then moving on to my BA. A fun fact about me is that I used to be a wrestler for my school and won a provincial title for my school.



**Samantha West**  
Takla Lake First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Executive Assistant

My name is Samantha West and I am from an isolated community of Takla Nation. My goal is to be educated and maintain a great healthy lifestyle for my family which includes sobriety. I want to break cycles from my generation and pass it on to my children. I finished a First Nations Housing Management course in 2020, and recently took up the title of office executive assistant with NVIT. Both schools have been amazing with online schooling, especially during COVID.



**Dylan Wilson**  
Musqueam Indian Band

Douglas College  
General Studies

I have lived in Vancouver my whole life and grown up in my community. I have also adapted to new communities while learning more about different Indigenous cultures. It has been beautiful to see as well as experience. Learning more about Indigenous cultures and history is my passion and I am working towards learning more.



**Chevy Wright**  
Kispiox Band Council

Nicola Valley Institute Of Technology  
Health Care Assistant

My name is Chevy Wright, I am Gitksan/ Nisga'a, and I am from the small community of Kispiox in Northern B.C. I decided to take the Health Care Assistant Program after my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and had some complications after treatment. I felt I could have done more to help her. My goal is to continue my education in the health field and go into the LPN program once I am done with the HCA. My mother, our community and our elders are my main focus once I am done with school.



**Gulkihlgad Yakgujanaas**  
Old Massett Village Council

Langara College  
Associate of Science

I am Gulkihlgad Yakgujanaas; from Masset, Haida Gwaii. My educational/ career goals are to attend medical school in the future. Once I become a doctor, I wish to travel to different rural Indigenous communities and provide proper medical care to those of us who do not have the privilege of easily accessible health care. I have witnessed the injustices our people experience while seeking medical care and wish to change that. So, I decided to fulfill my childhood dream and become a doctor.





**Sheila Wilson**  
Penticton Indian Band

Okanagan College  
Business Administration

Wai' (Hello), my name is Sheila (Sophie) Wilson. I am a Syilx Okanagan Nation member residing in Penticton, BC. My career goal includes working in Management within my Nation. My educational goal is to continue in school to graduate with my Business Administration degree. My education will enhance my career by providing me with the knowledge I need to be successful and work as a full-time participant and mentor in our businesses as Indigenous people which is important. While my education will enhance my career, I will also be a part of rebuilding our businesses and development for the future. I want the best for the future generations in our Nation and this is how I plan to give back with my education. Wai' Limlimpt'.



**Jaasaljuus Yakgujanaas**  
Old Massett Village Council

Simon Fraser University  
Linguistics of a First Nations Language - Graduate

Jaasaljuus Yakgujanaas hinuu dii kya'ang. Gaw Tlagee aa uu HI naagang. I am Jaasaljuus from Gaw Tlagee Old Massett, Haida Gwaii. I am taking the Graduate Certificate in the Linguistics of a First Nations Language with a focus on Xaad Kil. My goal with this degree is to gain the skills to develop a community-based curriculum for those that wish to learn Xaad Kil. I also hold a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology. Using these experiences, I wish to provide my community with lessons that blend these two. I chose this program because there are a lot of valuable language resources and I wanted to advance my understanding of linguistics to better utilize what is currently available, while also being able to share with my community what I am learning along the way.



**Elena Adams**  
Katzie First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education

My name is Elena Adams from the Katzie First Nation. I am a mother of five who works towards providing a culturally active life. I am currently in my first year of NITEP at UBC. It is my goal to become an Indigenous elementary school educator. To be able to bring my Indigenous and Western ways of knowing to my nation or neighbouring communities has always been my dream. To be able to make a difference in the lives of young people, and to help them build a love for education.



**Savana Alphonse**  
Tl'etinqox Government

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Arts

As a Tsilhqot'in woman and an English major at Thompson Rivers University, I write from an Indigenous perspective. I aim to share my story and shed light on matters that surround Indigenous peoples. On September 28th, 2021 I lost my mother to covid-19. Many times, I felt like giving up. I stayed true to my education and have thrived in my studies despite my loss. This bursary is a reminder that good things come to those who work hard and love what they do. Shechanalyagh (thank you) to the New Relationship Trust Foundation, the support means everything to me, my family and my journey.



**Edric Antoine**  
Bonaparte Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science

My name is Edric Antoine, from Kamloops, BC, and I am a second-year student at the University of British Columbia. I am currently pursuing an undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree, with a specialization in computer science. After graduation, I am considering continuing my education to obtain a Master's degree in computer science. My career goals are to go into software development or game design and I feel that this scholarship will help me to further my education and reduce financial stress.



**Georgia Baker**  
Squamish Nation

Simon Fraser University  
Professional Development and Bachelor of Education

My name is Georgia Baker and I am from the Squamish Nation. Growing up I knew I wanted to make a difference in children's lives, and becoming a teacher seemed like the best fit for me. I am so excited to get into the field of education and learn what I can do to make sure my students feel safe and have a strong sense of belonging in a system that has failed Indigenous students for so long.



**Olivia Baptiste**  
Xatśúll First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science

I am a member of Xatśúll First Nation near Williams Lake, B.C., and I grew up in Quesnel. On my mother's side, I am Secwépemc and European, and on my father's, I am Tsilhqot'in. My career goal is to become a physician and work with rural Indigenous communities. I grew up with strong women role models that have taught me the importance of taking care of the Elders' health and wellbeing. In my past four years at the University of British Columbia, I have been the vice and co-president of UBC's Chapter of the Canadian Indigenous Science and Engineering Society (caISES), a volunteering organization that promotes Indigenous perspectives and endeavours in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). I have also received an NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA), to study montbretia concerning treatment for type 2 diabetes. Over this past summer, I was a project assistant for the Virtual Indigenous Summer Experience (VISE) and helped host cultural and science workshops for high school students online. In addition, I also worked part-time as an employment coordinator for the ʔEsdilagh First Nation helping community members with career and training opportunities. In my free time, I enjoy running and volleyball.



**Ayana Brown**  
Lower Nicola Indian Band

Dixie State University  
Bachelor of Science - Accounting

My name is Ayana Brown, I am from the Lower Nicola Indian Band located in Merritt, British Columbia. I am currently pursuing my degree in accounting and my goal is to become a certified fraud examiner. After graduation, I want to track down white-collar crimes. I love art, and one day I will have my own art business. I also love sculpting, painting, beading, basket making, carving, glass blowing, and welding large metal pieces. I have embraced my culture and strive every day to make my family and community proud.



**Hanna Bryant**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

I am Ts'msyen from Lax Kw'alaams and Haida from Skidegate. I am a single mother to a beautiful two-and-a-half-year-old boy and decided to come back to school after a two-year hiatus which was spent raising my son and taking care of my mother while she underwent breast cancer treatments. Now that my son is a little older and my mother is in good health, I have decided to continue pursuing my bachelor's degree in psychology so that I can work towards providing a better life for my son and me. Once this degree is finished, I plan on going on to get my bachelor of education to become a teacher in my home community to eventually pursue my master's in counselling psychology. My goal has always been to serve the communities where I grew up in. As a teacher, I believe I will be able to achieve that goal.



**Cascade Campbell**  
Squamish Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

Cascade kwi en sna Tiná7 chan tl'a Kiyaplanexw Úxwumixw An wenáxws ten skwálwen. Nilh ta ens P'elakwiya kweshamin. I come from families who practice traditional teachings and are very involved in our cultural practices. My goal is to leave university with the skills to continue expanding, learning, and developing my career and education. As a youth leader, I am optimistic that each generation of Indigenous peoples is gaining strength and overcoming the challenges of colonialism. We need our upcoming generations to become educated and enter the business fields. There are numerous opportunities available to us, and I am working towards my degree to become involved in future developments and opportunities within and outside my community. I want to make my family and community proud as our people did not get a fair chance to become educated.



**Isabella Corbet**  
Tsawwassen First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Isabella Corbet and I am from Tsawwassen First Nation. I am in my second year at UBC studying English language and literature to get my Master's in English and eventually attend a teacher education program to become a high school English teacher. My goal as a teacher is to introduce more Indigenous literature to the classroom as through my education, I wished it was taught much more, especially by Indigenous role models.



**Samantha Desautels**  
Gingolx Village Government

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Education

My name is Samantha Beynon-Desautels. I am from Nisga'a and Tsimshian Nation. Currently, I am residing in Victoria BC. in Lekwungen Territory. This year opened my eyes to what my passion is. As I finish my degree in education, I am hoping to continue and further my goals to be the best educator I can be. As a single mom, the award that I have been given will allow me to continue my journey. I will forever be grateful. T'ooyaksiy niin.



**Frazer Dodd**  
Lax Kw'alaams Band

Alvernia University  
Bachelor of Science - Biology

Frazer Dodd Lax Kw'alaams Band Alvernia University PA Biology Degree. My name is Frazer Dodd and I was raised in Hazelton, B.C. I am a proud member of the Lax Kw'alaams Band. Playing hockey is a passion of mine and I feel fortunate for the opportunity to play at a higher level while I attend the University of Alvernia in Pennsylvania. My goal is to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Biology and go into physiotherapy or teaching. I am very grateful for the financial support from the New Relationship Trust Foundation as it will help to pay for my international student fees.



**Khaila Duncan-Burke**  
We-Wai-Kai First Nation

Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising  
Bachelor of Business Management

My name is Khaila Duncan-Burke, and I am currently a business management student at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. In June 2020, I received my associate of arts degree in apparel industry management and decided that I wanted to pursue a bachelor's degree to further my education. Although I moved to LA for school, I am originally from Vancouver, B.C. I am from the We Wai Kai Nation as my family resides in both Vancouver and Vancouver Island. My family are my biggest supporters and encouraged me to chase after my dreams in LA. My short-term goals include working for my dream companies, continuing to learn and grow within the industry and networking with more industry professionals. My long-term goal is to potentially have my own brand or work in product development.



**Brendan Eshom**  
Gitga'at Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science

My feast name is Gaa Liip Liibm Laxha (Rolling Thunder), and my English name is Brendan Eshom. I was born and raised in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. My matriarchal bloodline resides from the Gitga'at of the Ts'msyen nation, and I belong to the Gisbutwada (Killerwhale) house Wah Moodm. Currently, I am enrolled in my second year of studies at the University of British Columbia to obtain a bachelor's of science degree in life sciences and statistics. 'Ap luk'wil t'oyaxsut 'nüün—I thank you very much.



**Tianna Frost**  
Tl'etinqox Government

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Education

My name is Tianna Frost and I was born and raised in Williams Lake B.C. I am from Tl'etinqox band. I recently finished my Bachelor of Arts with a major in history from Thompson Rivers University and am now in my first year of their Bachelor of Education Program. I have a passion for education and helping children learn and succeed. I am looking forward to a future career as an educator and hope to pursue my Master of Education.



**Trinity Gladstone**  
Skidegate Band Council

Queen's University  
Bachelor of Arts (Hons) - Political Studies

Hello, my name is Trinity Gladstone and I am going into my third year of University at Queen's University in Kingston Ontario. I am majoring in Political Studies, and minoring in Global Development Studies. I am originally from British Columbia where I was born and raised. Specifically, I am from Haida Gwaii which is where I grew up in my community, fully submerged into my culture. I am currently striving to become an NGO worker in advocacy which is what my current job positions have been working with.



**Logan Grant**  
Musqueam Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Logan Grant and I am a member of the Musqueam Nation. I am in my third year at the University of British Columbia, majoring in the First Nations and Endangered Languages Program. I have chosen this path because I have a passion for languages and I want to further my knowledge of the hə́h'qəmińəm language. I want to contribute to the continuation of revitalizing the language within my community.



**Hunter Grant**  
Cayoose Creek Indian Band

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Arts

I spent a lot of my young life playing high-level rugby, playing for provincial and Canada-level Rugby throughout high school as well as the UVic Norsemen since I first began attending UVic in the 2017-2018 year. I was also on the inaugural team for the Thunder Rugby program in 2014, an initiative headed by retired Canadian rugby player Phil Mack to help bring the sport to Indigenous communities, and played with them for many years since. I recently had to step away from the game due to an injury, so I have chosen to refocus my attention on meeting my academic goals. I plan to get a major in Spanish, as well as a minor in French. I hope to use this degree to pursue options travelling abroad, hopefully when international travel restrictions lift. Thank you again for helping to support my academic career this year, your support means a great deal to me.



**Owen Harris**  
Gitwangak

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Urban Forestry

My goal is to connect people with the natural world and be a steward of the land and water, as my ancestors were. I want to build my community stronger, protect Indigenous culture for future generations, and honour past ancestors. The effects of climate change and deforestation threaten the health of our world. I believe the solution is a combination of western science and Indigenous ways of knowing based upon reciprocity, gratitude and respect. Within my studies, I seek to find ways to incorporate traditional teachings and ways of knowing within the modern world and technologies.



**Isaac Hill**  
Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Commerce

Working with the Council of the Haida Nation during high school led to my interest in business, particularly finance and accounting. Currently, I am a third-year bachelor of commerce student at the UBC Sauder School of Business studying accounting with a concentration in sustainability and social impact. After completing my degree, I plan to obtain both my chartered professional accountant (CPA) designation and chartered financial analyst (CFA) designation. Moreover, I plan to return to KPMG and encourage them to expand their initiatives with Indigenous communities continually. Lastly, I hope to eventually have my own financial management firm that exclusively works with Indigenous communities and organizations.



**Stephanie Holmes**  
Tl'azt'en Nation

University of the Fraser Valley  
Bachelor of Integrated Studies

Hadih, I am Stephanie Holmes, I am Dakelh from Tl'azt'en Nation located in Tache, B.C. I am currently working towards my degree in Indigenous Holistic Wellness and Addictions. I have been a mental health worker on the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver for many years. Once I am finished my degree, I will be better able to help our Indigenous communities incorporate wellness and culture into their lives. Musi Cho!

“I have been a mental health worker on the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver for many years. Once I am finished my degree, I will be better able to help our Indigenous communities incorporate wellness and culture into their lives.

— Stephanie Holmes



**Teira Joseph**  
Splatsin

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of General Studies

Hello, I am Teira Joseph from the Splatsin Band located in Enderby B.C. I grew up on reserve until moving away when I started post-secondary school. I am currently attending the University of Victoria completing my social work degree. I will be the first person in my family to graduate from university. My long-term goal is to return to my community and pursue social work.



**Daniel Kennedy**  
Cook's Ferry Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - Computer Science and Statistics

Hello, I'm Daniel Kennedy, and I was born in Vancouver. Through my education at the University of British Columbia, I hope to launch an engaging career in either the tech industry or otherwise statistical analysis. My experience has shown me that there are few Indigenous students in all STEM fields; I hope that my peers and I can work to reverse this trend. time. Huy chexw a.



**Faith Kennedy**  
Bonaparte Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science

I would like to major in earth and environmental sciences for my degree as it is something I have been passionate about for a long time. Helping the community is something I have always enjoyed doing so pursuing a career in this field will allow me to keep helping the community while also making sure the environment around it stays safe and healthy for more generations to come. Through working and volunteering in the community I was able to get to know a lot of people within the community who have helped me become the kind and compassionate person I am today. My family has always been important to me they have always encouraged me to do my best in any interest I have had over the years, and they continue to be my support system every day which is something I am very lucky and happy to have.



**Kimberlyn Kosik**  
Westbank First Nation

En'owkin Centre  
Bachelor of nsyilxcen Language Fluency

Hello, good day, my name is Kim Kosik. I am learning to speak ḥqilxʷcn. I am currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Nsyilxcen Language Fluency program at En'owkin Centre (in partnership with NVIT and UBCO). Language revitalization is extremely important to me. Upon graduation, I look forward to sharing with my community what I have learnt and helping instill pride in the language and culture. I believe that having pride in our language and culture increases community health, well-being and connectedness. I hope to share the language with the younger generations so that they have the opportunity to learn the culture and language from a young age, fostering confidence in who they are and building their self-esteem. way̓ liml̓amt Thank you.



**Terence Lewis**  
Squamish Nation

Simon Fraser University  
Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

It is a blessing to be going to go back to school and pursue a passion of mine, psychology. I aspire to give back to my Nation and other Indigenous communities here in B.C. by promoting mental health through different avenues and being supported by well-integrated Indigenous methodologies and research. I am looking forward to developing my skills and diversifying my knowledge throughout my journey to my master's degree in clinical psychology. Thank you to the NRTF for the financial support. To be provided with this assistance, I am eternally grateful.



**Fiona Lizotte**  
Okanagan Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science

Fiona Lizotte is a fourth-year general science student obtaining her Bachelor of Science degree with a focus in biology and psychology. Fiona is Syilx Okanagan from the Okanagan Indian Band and currently resides in Kelowna, B.C. After graduation, Fiona plans to apply to dental school, where she can study to become a dentist to serve in First Nations communities in BC.



**Caytlyn Luke**  
Lower Kootenay Band

University of Victoria  
Bachelor of Education

kiʔsuʔk kyukyit ḡapiniski! Hu qakḡik kanuhus ʔa-kinḡuḡak. Hu kaki kaxi Yaḡan Nukiy, hu nini Ktunaxa. My current goals are to graduate from university in the spring of 2023 and return home to teach at Yaḡan Nukiy School which is located in my home reserve. My Nation and Community have done nothing but support and encourage me throughout my post-secondary studies, which has driven me to give back in some way. This has been a huge part of my chosen career path as I find teaching is a good way to give back to my community and Nation. I look forward to following my career path, achieving my goals, and becoming an educator for our future youth. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the NRT Foundation for this great opportunity and for rewarding me with this bursary. Taxas



**Courtney Kneale**  
Westbank First Nation

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Courtney Kneale and I am from Vernon, British Columbia. I am a second-year student at UBCO, studying history and political science. My goal is to become an educator, emphasizing how history relates to issues affecting our world today. I want to improve our social studies curriculum, making it feel more engaging and relatable for high school students. I believe a stronger emphasis needs to be put on Indigenous studies, and the turbulent aspects of Canada's history. I wish to encourage students from all backgrounds to work together towards a future guided by equality. I want to be the role model I needed when I was younger, someone who can show students how to best utilize their natural talents. I owe everything to my Syilx great-grandmother, who raised me with incredible care and love. She taught me about her time at the Kamloops Residential School, and her incredible perseverance and strength inspire me every day. She passed away in 2019, the age of ninety-eight, and pursuing my calling makes me feel closer to her.



**Amber Lyn May**  
Tahltan Central Government

Laurentian University  
Bachelor of Science (Hons) -  
Forensic Science and Biology

My name is Amber May and I am going into my first year of Forensic Science at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario. I am from Calgary, Alberta and I went to Father Lacombe High School. I am a part of the Tahltan First Nation. I will also be a part of the women's basketball team here at Laurentian University for the 21/22 season. I have ten siblings, me being the eighth out of eleven, and I am the third child to go to post-secondary straight out of high school. My parents have always worked extremely hard to provide for my siblings and me, so being able to thrive in my academics and athletics brings me a sense of peace as I know it is one less thing my parents have to worry about. I grew up with many struggles that my family has gone through, including alcoholism and drug abuse, and I am beyond grateful that I was able to come out of it with great achievements. I am now starting a new chapter that is going to benefit myself and my Indigenous community.



**James Luteijn**  
Nadleh Whut'en First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is James Luteijn, I am from Tsawwassen BC. and part of the Nadleh Whut'en band. My academic goals are to finish my undergraduate degree at UBC as well as to compete to the best of my ability as a member of the UBC Rowing Team. I am incredibly grateful for this award and will be using it to further my education at UBC.



**Annika Martynuik**  
Skidegate Band Council

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Education

My name is Annika Martynuik, and I am a member of the Skidegate Band Council. I am attending Vancouver Island University for a Bachelor of Education in my final year. I plan on teaching in an elementary school or teaching English as a second language. I chose this career path because I was inspired by some of the teachers back home, and I love learning new things.



“I work for the cultural immersion school on my reserve as a certified education assistant. I am grateful to be working alongside our youth and watching them further themselves in their educational journey. Becoming a teacher will allow me to empower our youth and guide them into their future.”

— Alicia Marchand



**Alicia Marchand**  
Okanagan Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education

Way' My Name is Alicia Marchand and I am from the Okanagan Indian Band. I am in my second year at UBC in the NITEP program working towards my teaching degree. I work for the cultural immersion school on my reserve as a certified education assistant. I am grateful to be working alongside our youth and watching them further themselves in their educational journey. Becoming a teacher will allow me to empower our youth and guide them into their future.



**Lynn Morrison**  
Simpchw First Nation

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Arts

Weykt, my name is Lynn Morrison and I was raised in Kamloops, just south of Simpcw First Nations and my community, Chu chua. I am currently in my final year at Thompson Rivers University, majoring in Psychology. With this degree, I hope to either follow a path directed in Health Policy or Nursing (more to come after this current semester). Whether it be working towards removing barriers which are hindering and making Indigenous access to health care needs and services difficult or applying psychology to nursing through an Indigenous lens, I hope my impact helps to create safer relationships and experiences for Indigenous Peoples.



**Brittany Morrison**  
Kispiox Band Council

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science

My name is Brittany Morrison, I am a first nations woman from the Gitksan territory of northern BC, in Kispiox. My goal is to be able to help those in need within my community and most definitely help youth to go into post-secondary and sports. I would love to see more young Indigenous youth/adults succeed.



**Jenna Myers**  
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

Athabasca University  
Bachelor of Science - Architecture

My name is Jenna, I am part of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc band. I am in the final year of my undergraduate degree studying architecture. My goal is to pursue a master's degree and become a registered architect in British Columbia.



**Jasmine Netsena**  
Fort Nelson First Nation

Yukon University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Jasmine Netsena and I am from the Tahltan and Dene Nations, of Northern B.C. I have two daughters and I strive to build a meaningful life for us. I am in the Bachelor of Business Administration program. My goal is to help build strong organizations in the areas of business, arts and culture. My passion is the arts and reclaiming Indigenous knowledge.



**Lee Olson**  
Cheslatta Carrier Nation

University of the Fraser Valley  
Bachelor of Integrated Studies

My name is Lee Ann Olson and I am from the Cheslatta Carrier Nation on my father's side and Cree and Métis on my mother's side. I am currently graduating with a Bachelor of Integrated Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley. The program I am taking started at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology as a Chemical Addictions program in Burnaby B.C. that is based on First Nations studies. I have learned so much in this program about what it takes to be a helper. I have had the opportunity through my studies to heal myself as well when it comes to my own experience with addiction and intergenerational trauma. I hope that I can continue learning and healing so that I can help First Nations people to do their healing as well to live a clean and healthy life. I hope to become a role model in my sobriety and education to continue walking the red road so I can give back to the people who need help on their healing journey.

**“I have two daughters and I strive to build a meaningful life for us. I am in the Bachelor of Business Administration program. My goal is to help build strong organizations in the areas of business, arts and culture. My passion is the arts and reclaiming Indigenous knowledge.**

— Jasmine Netsena



**Sophia Orth**  
Kitsumkalum First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science

I am hoping to major in psychology and one day become a psychiatrist. I have witnessed many personal stories of mental health and mental illness. There has been sadness and disparity within my family and friends as well as within myself. My dad suffered from a brain injury when I was very young and now has emotional outbursts. Our family has learned to work with my dad when these happen. It has not been easy and has played a big part in my journey. I have also dealt with my anxiety for many years and wish to help others who may be experiencing the same battles I go through on a day-to-day basis. My mental health battles have made me resilient and stronger in many capacities. I want to better understand how the brain works to better comprehend the difficulties today's youth have. I want to be part of the solution to creating a healthier mental environment in the future.



**Kelly Palm**  
'Namgis First Nation

Emily Carr University of Art + Design  
Bachelor of Fine Arts - Illustration

I have been lucky enough to grow up visiting my Indigenous family in Alert Bay fairly frequently. My main career goal is to become a concept artist for animated films as I've always loved them and felt the messaging within them can be incredibly powerful. As a queer Indigenous person, I would love to help other people like me feel seen in the media we consume, as representation in said media is important in the way we view ourselves and Indigenous people are significantly underrepresented.



**Jade Palmer**  
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Jade Palmer, I am a member of Secwepemc First Nation. My educational goals include completing a BA and going to law school. I envision using my education to give back to Indigenous communities and supporting my people in this avenue. Law is an important aspect of support, considering Indigenous people are extremely over-represented within our prison systems. Without bursaries and scholarships, I would not achieve these goals.

**“My educational goals include completing a BA and going to law school. I envision using my education to give back to Indigenous communities and supporting my people in this avenue. Law is an important aspect of support, considering Indigenous people are extremely over-represented within our prison systems.**

— Jade Palmer



**Sydney Parnell**  
Old Massett Village Council

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
Bachelor of Management

My name is Sydney and I am a member of the Haida Nation. I am currently working towards a Bachelor of Management degree at UBCO. My goal is to become an accountant therefore, I plan to further my education in order to receive my CPA designation.



**Kylee Pilkington**  
**Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc**

University of British Columbia - Okanagan  
 Bachelor of Education

My name is Kylee Pilkington and I am from Williams Lake, BC. I am currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Education program at UBCO in Kelowna. Once I complete my studies, my career goal is to become a high school English First Peoples, French, and Psychology teacher. My long-term goal is to get my Master of Education degree.



**Keanna Pilkington**  
**Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc**

Thompson Rivers University  
 Bachelor of Science - Chemistry Major

My name is Keanna Pilkington. I am currently in my fourth year of my Bachelor of Science degree at Thompson Rivers University, where I plan on graduating in April 2022. My future goal is to attend the Bachelor of Education program and eventually become an elementary school teacher.

“I previously worked in School District 72 as a Lík'wala Language Teacher and my goal is to get my degree to continue to work for our district in our Lík'wala Language Program. I am very grateful for this opportunity. Ḡilakasía.

— Dana Roberts



**Emmagin Richardson**  
**Upper Nicola Indian Band**

Trinity Western University  
 Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Emmagin Richardson and I grew up in Merritt, British Columbia. I have now moved on to Trinity Western University where I am pursuing my Bachelor of Business Administration with a double specialization in Accounting and Human Resources. I aspire to start a consulting company and work with smaller businesses and non-profit organizations, helping them improve the financial aspects of their business operations, as well as HR-specific practices like benefits and compensation. I want to help smaller businesses and non-profit organizations that struggle against big competitors in their industry to achieve long-term success.



**Dana Roberts**  
**Wei Wai Kum First Nation**

University of Victoria  
 Bachelor of Education - Indigenous Language Revitalization

My name is Dana Roberts. I am Liḡwítḡaxw from the Weiwaikum Band. I have been working on language Revitalization for the past twenty years and now I am completing my degree at UVIC in the Bachelor of Education Language Revitalization Program. I previously worked in School District 72 as a Lík'wala Language Teacher and my goal is to get my degree to continue to work for our district in our Lík'wala Language Program. I am very grateful for this opportunity. Ḡilakasía.



**Marcy Sellars**  
**Xatšúll First Nation**

Langara College  
 Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Although there have been many obstacles in my journey, both academic and financial, it is opportunities like this that make all the difference! Nurses are constantly in high demand, and Indigenous health remains in a crisis, I want to help counteract that. I wish to help increase the health of Indigenous peoples with the collaboration of western and holistic medicine. I also wish to help increase trusting relationships between Indigenous and health care professionals, as well as help Nursing organizations increase Indigenous health education within their school programs.



**Bonnie Seward**  
**Cowichan Tribes**

University of Victoria  
 Bachelor of Education - Indigenous Language Revitalization

ḠÉLÁSTENOT TḠE NE SNÁ ĆSE LÁE STAUTW I Cowichan. I am a mother of four and I reside in the Tsartlip First Nation. I completed the W ,SENĆOFEN IST Diploma Program and I am in my second year of the Bachelor's of Education in Indigenous Language Revitalization program at UVic. My dream is to develop programs for youth and young adults. I believe that my gifts do not belong to just me, I want to share them with as many communities as I can to help strengthen our youth. I believe that I can make a small difference in helping those who are willing to begin their language learning journey and along with learning the language, they will be able to reconnect to their true healing place in their lives.



**Jennifer Sharp**  
**Esk'etemc**

Thompson Rivers University  
 Bachelor of General Studies

Once I complete my degree, I look forward to pursuing a bachelor's degree in education. My goal is to become an elementary school teacher. I have worked as a certified education assistant for the past eight years. My experience in the workforce has only added to my passion for children and public education. Being a teacher is in my blood. My mother was a teacher for over twenty-five years. When she passed away in 2019, I knew it was time to go back to school so I could carry on her legacy.



**Danika Shaw**  
**Heiltsuk Tribal Council**

University of British Columbia  
 Bachelor of Arts - First Nations Endangered Languages and Anthropology

My name is Danika and I am an Eagle Woman of Heiltsuk Nation. I hope not only to revitalize my ancestral tongue but help other tribes along the way as well. I am currently working on researching how languages from the same family tree act the same and differ for us to become multilingual like our ancestors were. I hope through my work to create a world where our future children can not only speak our respective languages fluently but also cross-communicate with other bands in their respective tongues as our ancestors used to. Ḡiáḡsixa to the Creator and the New Relationship Trust Foundation for this opportunity to pursue my dreams of revitalizing our sacred languages.



**Kaitlyn Souch**  
Upper Similkameen Indian Band

Mount Allison University  
Bachelor of Science

My name is Kaitlyn Souch. I am from Upper Similkameen Indian Band. I graduated from Penticton Secondary School, and I am attending Mount Allison University in the fall. I plan on completing a Bachelor of Science degree, with a major in environmental science. In 2015, I wrote a letter to the Canadian Wildlife Federation inquiring if they had any WILD magazine issues that covered information about coyotes, they did not. Although, they loved my enthusiasm and decided to make their next issue about coyotes and thanked me for my ideas. The excellent response I received was a motivator to continue learning about wildlife. This has since fuelled my passion and is part of what inspired me to pursue this degree. In the future, I plan on a career in the wildlife industry, perhaps as a wildlife biologist, environmental scientist, or laboratory worker for conservation biology. I would love to help build wildlife bridges, and volunteer at wildlife rehabilitation centres. I think it is important to be an advocate for the protection and sustainability of our natural resources and the wildlife around us. I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue my passion and start making a difference.



**Ruth Speck**  
Musqueam Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education

ʔi ʔə ce:p ʔəw ʔeləy ʔalʔ ʔe:nθə wəʔtaga, tənɪʔ cən ʔə ʔ xʷməθkʷəy̓əm ʔiʔ ʔawic is. Greetings and well wishes. I am Ruthie Speck, my name is wəʔtaga in my father's language of kwak̓wala, it is an ancient name that I am proud to carry which means "the woman you go to for help". This name was bestowed upon me last August. I am from Musqueam on my mother's side and Tlowitsis on my father's side. I am in my third year of the Indigenous Teacher Education Program (NITEP) at the University of British Columbia, and I am honoured to be a part of this program. I plan to be a secondary teacher in English and Social Sciences and plan to eventually create a curriculum and teach həh́q̓əmiḥəh́ at the secondary level. I am a strong advocate for language revitalization and believe that our Indigenous languages are crucial to the well-being of our people. I am also an advocate for keeping a healthy lifestyle. Amidst my studies, community commitments, and work, I also enjoy snowboarding, playing soccer, and playing a sport called pickleball. It is important to me to lead a well-balanced life, mentally, spiritually, emotionally, and physically.



**Julia Stephens**  
Gitlaxt'aamiks  
Village Government

Simon Fraser University  
Bachelor of Arts - Cognitive Science

My tribe is Laxgibuu, I am from Gitlaxts'aamix and Laxgalzap. I was born in Prince Rupert and I am Nisga'a. I am seeking a BA in Cognitive Science to develop programs to give back to my Nation, specifically for language and to preserve knowledge.



**Echo Sulin**  
Ulkatcho First Nation

University of British Columbia -  
Okanagan  
Bachelor of Science

Echo Sulin (she/her) is a Dakelh undergraduate student born and raised in Lethbridge, Alberta. She is currently in her final year of a Bachelor of Science, studying ecology and evolutionary biology. She enjoys learning about our natural environment and hopes to pursue a career in restoration biology and environmental conservation. She is particularly fond of coastal forest systems and hopes that her studies and future career can contribute to saving sensitive ecosystems. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time outside hiking, skiing, climbing, biking, and spending time with friends.



**Cody Teichroeb**  
Westbank First Nation

University of British Columbia -  
Okanagan  
Bachelor of Arts

I am a member of Westbank First Nations and a proud Syilx man. I used to play professional Lacrosse and work as an Electrician. My career goals are to be a Registered Councillor. I am very passionate about mental health and how we can offer support to those that reach out.



**Llana Teichroeb**  
Westbank First Nation

En'owkin Centre  
Bachelor of nsyilxcen Language Fluency

My nsyilxcən name means person helping others. I am sqilxʷ and a member of Westbank First Nation. Our Okanagan language, nsyilxən, is on the endangered language list. My grandmother was a survivor of Indian Residential School and would not teach us the language for fear of retribution. She passed away when I was a teenager so I began my language education to regain and honour the voice that was taken from my grandmother and so many others in my nation. I realize language is a direct link to who we are and closely tied to our traditions and culture. I am determined to complete my degree and continue contributing to language revitalization by finding creative ways to educate others. I am already passing this knowledge on to my children, grandchildren, and other community and Nation members. I am extremely grateful for the support I have received from the NRTF for my education. Your support enables me to move towards my goals and allows me to continue on my educational journey. limləmt.





**Sofia Terbasket-Funmaker**  
Lower Similkameen Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education

way' (Hello), I am a Syilx, Ho-Chunk and Anishinaabe woman and I have been learning my language, Nsyilxcen, for the past year and a half. During this time, I realized that teaching the language is my calling in life. My dream is to develop a land-based curriculum that is rooted in Nsyilxcen, captikʷł and Syilx ways of knowing for future generations. Nsyilxcen is a bridge to healing. One of my language mentors told me, "When you learn the language everything else will follow." Everything else means our songs, ceremony and cultural practices. The language has helped me feel more confident in my identity as a Syilx woman and get a glimpse into the way my ancestors understood this world. After I get my teaching certificate and start teaching the language to others, I hope the language will bring them the healing and happiness that it has brought me. then spend some time working in my hometown.



**Aiyana Twigg**  
Ktunaxa Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - First Nations Endangered Languages and Anthropology

Kiʔsuʔk kyukyit, hu qakʔik Aiyana Twigg. Hu ʔini Ktunaxa ʔ Wanʔ uqantik. Hu qaki qaxi ʔakinkumʔasnuqʔiʔit. My name is Aiyana Twigg I am Ktunaxa on my mother's side and grew up on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Ktunaxa in ʔakinkumʔasnuqʔiʔit. I am Blackfoot, registered blood tribe located on treaty 7 territory, on my father's side. I am currently in my fourth and final year of my Bachelor of Arts degree pursuing a double major in First Nations Endangered Languages and Anthropology with a focus in linguistic anthropology at the University of British Columbia (UBC). With training in FNEL and anthropological linguistics, I hope to acquire knowledge in linguistic analysis, documentation, and decolonize/deconstruct the westernized concepts that are embedded in linguistics that negatively impact First Nations languages and their connection with culture. My ultimate goal is to approach First Nations languages in a decolonized and holistic way that respects the intrinsic connection between language and culture, while also fostering a relationship with linguistic analysis and documentation.



**Colton Van Der Minne**  
Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Science (Hons) - Marine Biology

I am in my fourth year of a Bachelor of Science at UBC studying marine biology. I have been drawn to the ocean for as long as I can remember, and this degree has felt like the natural continuation of that fascination. After graduating, I would like to eventually pursue work as a marine biologist, which potentially includes going to graduate school. I am specifically interested in Indigenous fisheries management, which is a field that I have an opportunity to experience for the first time this summer as I undertake an honours thesis project involving salmon conservation. Thank you, New Relationship Trust Foundation, for your support!



**Jeremy Weiss**  
Da'naxda'xw First Nation

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Arts

Yo, nugwa'am Jeremy Weiss gayutlan Nanaimo BC. Namyut Da'naxda'xw of the Kwakwaka'wakw awee na kola. Hello, my name is Jeremy Weiss from Nanaimo B.C. My family is Da'naxda'xw from the Kwakwaka'wakw territory. I am studying towards a BA in Indigenous Studies, Psychology, and an Addiction Studies Certificate. I plan on working with my own, and other Indigenous communities. The work is on the addiction problem and the maladaptive effects on Indigenous cultural identity. The foundation for my BA studies is a Social Services Diploma I completed in June of 2021. I am grateful for the support that NRTF has provided in helping me achieve my goals. Gila'Kasla.



**Kieran Wells Figueiredo**  
Wuikinuxv Nation

Wilfrid Laurier University  
Bachelor of Arts (Hons)

Hello, my name is Kieran Figueiredo. I was born in Victoria, British Columbia and grew up on the Homalco Reserve in Campbell River, British Columbia. I grew up surrounded by my family and by my culture. When I moved to Toronto, Ontario I was nine years old and it was the biggest culture shock of my life. Going from the small town and reservation in Campbell River to the largest city in Canada was a huge change for me. Living in Toronto introduced me to many different cultures and people, that I likely would not have been introduced to when I did. Living in Toronto gave me a great appreciation for all the different people and cultures of the world. That appreciation also extended to my pride in being Canadian, which is why I have chosen to pursue a career in the Canadian Armed Forces. I plan to become an officer in the army after university.



**Isabelle Williams**  
Cowichan Tribes

Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Isabelle Williams. I am Coast Salish from Cowichan Tribes on Vancouver Island. I am working on my BA in Criminology. When I am done, I would like to help those who find themselves in the revolving door of the Canadian correctional system. I was once one of those statistics of Indigenous women in the justice system. I am looking for a meaningful career to help others struggling by sharing my experience, strength and hope!



**Trinity Wong**  
**Gitwangak**

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts

I am in the process of getting my Bachelor of Arts majoring in First Nations studies. My goal after getting my Bachelor of Arts is to continue to Law School at the University of Victoria where I will do a joint degree program in Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders to get my Juris Doctor and Juris Indigenarum Doctor degrees, which will take a total of four years. After completing this program, I plan on starting my career in Aboriginal Law. Before starting post-secondary at Coast Mountain College, originally my goal was just to become a lawyer and I was not exactly sure what category of law I wanted to choose. After doing a research paper on Intergenerational Trauma after Residential Schools, it made me realize that I wanted to go into Indigenous Law. I have always had a strong need and passion to help First Nations people's voices be heard, and I find that advocating for them as a lawyer would be the perfect career choice.

“After doing a research paper on Intergenerational Trauma after Residential Schools, it made me realize that I wanted to go into Indigenous Law. I have always had a strong need and passion to help First Nations people's voices be heard, and I find that advocating for them as a lawyer would be the perfect career choice.

— Trinity Wong



**Immanuel Wood Lynes-Ford**  
**'Namgis First Nation**

Ontario College of Art & Design University  
Bachelor of Fine Arts - Photography

My name is Mani Wood Lynes-Ford. I pride myself on being Kwa'Kwaka'wakw, Tsimshian and Gitksan. Currently, I am in the second year of my Bachelor of Fine Art in Photography at Ontario College of Art and Design. Making art is one of the ways I feel most connected with my culture and when I graduate, I hope to make a career in Photojournalism and with my fine art.



**Lois Yeomans**  
**Old Massett Village Council**

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education

I am Lois Yeomans. I am of Tsimshian/Haida descent, born and raised in Prince Rupert BC. I am currently entering my third year of the NITEP program at UBC working toward my Bachelor's in Education. When completed, I will teach grades 1-2 in the East side of Vancouver. I will be integrating Indigenous culture and knowledge into my school-based curriculum, allowing for the culture to be revived one subject at a time. I would like to thank New Relationship Trust Foundation for the bursary. My family and I are very grateful and honoured to be chosen to receive the award. This award will help us in many ways throughout my educational path.



**Chésa Abma-Slade**  
**Esquimalt Nation**

University of Victoria  
Juris Doctor

əy skʷečəl my name is Chésa Abma-Slade and I am a member of Xwsepsum (Esquimalt Nation). Currently, I am in entering 2L in the joint degree program in Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders at the University of Victoria. I hope to use my education to work for my Nation or within the field of criminal law to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people within the justice system. I am grateful for the support the NRTF has provided me on my journey. Hay'sxw'qa si'em.



**Rainbow Acoby**  
**Lytton First Nations**

University of British Columbia  
Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner

Rainbow Cloud Acoby is Nlaka'pumux and Anishinaabe Lytton First Nation in Beautiful British Columbia. She was given the name Rainbow Cloud when she was one month old in a name-giving ceremony. She is a Master in Nursing/ Nurse Practitioner student at the University of British Columbia. She had previously worked as a public health nurse and went back to school to become a forensic nurse examiner and specialize in Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). She hopes to go back to her community as a family nurse practitioner and also bring a mobile SANE unit to serve rural and remote communities.



**Cheri Brown**  
**Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap**

University of Northern British Columbia  
Master of Arts - First Nations Studies

I am Cheri Brown, Hlgu K'andox, of The Nisga'a First Nation. My mother originates from the Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap in the Nass Valley of northwestern BC, our lands from time immemorial. I am pursuing my Master's in First Nations Studies at the University of Northern British Columbia. I study Indigenous post-secondary education attainment and student lived experience. In striving to build support for Indigenous students I am also working toward the broader goal of social justice and equitable treatment of Indigenous peoples and cultures in Canada.



**Madelyn Brown**  
**Gingox Village Government**

University of Oregon  
Master of Arts - History

She is currently writing her thesis on the historical impact of land privatization/allotment on Indigenous communities in the Western United States. Madelyn plans to continue her education and pursue a Ph.D. in History, to someday become a teacher. Outside the classroom, Madelyn is the graduate representative of her history department's Diversity Committee. During the last two years, she has helped create a scholarship for incoming master's students from underrepresented communities, formed an Undergraduate Diversity Committee, and coordinated with an outside corporation to assess the equity climate amongst faculty and graduate students in the history department through surveys, and group and individual discussions.



**Benjamin Chief**  
Tahltan Central Government

Vancouver Island University  
Master of Business Administration

My name is Benjamin Chief, and I am from Telegraph Creek, B.C. I am entering my final year of the Master of Business Administration Program at Vancouver Island University. The program has been both challenging and rewarding so far and I am very excited for the upcoming year. In the future, I would like to work as a management consultant specializing in finance and continue to write business proposals for my community as often as I can. I am very grateful for all the support that I have received from the NRTF it truly has been a blessing throughout my educational journey! Meduh! (Thank You)



**Rhonda Elliott**  
Cowichan Tribes

Simon Fraser University  
Executive Master of Business Administration

I have worked with my Nation for many years in which I gained professional experience and connection to my community. Now I have the opportunity to pursue my education goals to enhance my knowledge and understanding to better serve our communities. This educational journey is the best thing that has happened in a while and I am ever so thankful for it. I want to thank New Relationship Trust Foundation for its financial support during this time, it will assist in so many ways. Being a student is not easy and very challenging on so many levels and for this, I am honoured NRTF to have assisted where they could. Huy ch q'umotivation for pursuing law school.



**Eyvette Elliott**  
Cowichan Tribes

Vancouver Island University  
Master of Community Planning

Qwuy'um'aat holds a certificate in First Nations Housing Management and a Bachelor of Business Administration. She is a dynamic and results-oriented leader excelling in three areas: communications, human resources, and planning. Her passion for community has allowed her to cross a variety of sectors, build meaningful partnerships and formulate innovative solutions. She is excited about pursuing opportunities and research in Indigenous planning as it relates to engagement, government-to-government relationships, and housing.



**Chelsea Gladstone**  
Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia  
Juris Doctor

My name is Xanjuu which translates to "travelling around" in the Haida language. I am a member of the Haida Nation and part of the Ts'aahl eagle clan of Haida Gwaii. In 2019, I was the first person in my family to graduate from university with a Bachelor of Arts. My community in Skidegate is my greatest source of power for attaining a law degree. I aspire to use the law as a tool for Indigenous rights advocacy and for furthering the legal work for sustainable economic development in our communities. My goal is to bridge Haida's world views in law to advance our resurgence as Indigenous people. Upon completion of the J.D law program, I plan to practice Indigenous law with multiple specializations in Aboriginal and Business law. I am committed to advancing and advocating for our rights and our lands as Indigenous people.



**Leateeqwhia Daniels**  
Squamish Nation

University of Victoria  
Master of Indigenous Language Revitalization

nuuw Leateeqwhia Daniels kwi en sna tina7 chan tl'a Skwx wú7mesh Úxwumixw, Hello my name is Leateeqwhia Daniels, I am from the Squamish Nation. I am nearing the end of my Master's program at UVic. I will graduate with a Master's in Indigenous Language Revitalization. Skwx wú7mesh Sníchim is our grandmother's first language and because she inter-married, she became fluent in our grandfather's language. I moved home in 2000 to graduate from NITEP. I am passionate about education, and I am blessed to learn from our community five-year old's. Teaching at our community school I had the opportunity to learn our grandmother's language, I never did think I would be a speaker, but I am grateful and privileged to be able to speak Skwx wú7mesh. Combining education and language is powerful for my life and healing. I am now in curriculum development and unsure of the future, but our language is within my mind, my body, and my soul so I can go anywhere and do anything and be ok. I am grateful to be chosen for this NRTF bursary and encourage everyone to follow their heart and dream big. No dream is unreachable.



**Pawatsqwachiitl Haiyupis**  
Ahousesht First Nation

University of Victoria  
Master of Arts - Indigenous Nationhood

uklash pawatsqwachiitl. My name is pawa, and I am an Ahousesht citizen with strong ties in Tla-o-qui-aht hahoulthee (territory). I feel the most belonging and healing when I am in my ancestral places. My career's role is intervening with ongoing colonial damage to Indigenous youth and nature. A clear impact of the colonial regime is the unmarked graves of our precious tiny ones that were victims of Residential Schools. I hope to be of service to my Nation and people as we go through the difficult times of looking for the unmarked graves in Ahousesht and Old Christie Residential school. I think about it daily, and it hits me deep in my core. We have extensive healing to do and more extreme weather is more often. B.C. is on fire each summer and experienced mass flooding. All the forests are cut or burned, the fish stop returning to the rivers, and the freshwater and food systems are toxic. Yet, some Indigenous people remain in the territory to restore and repair the natural systems. I will do my part to keep intact the old-growth watersheds, freshwater sources, and food systems that our ancestors stewarded for our future generations.



**Kasey Stirling**  
Lower Nicola Indian Band

University of British Columbia  
Master of Science - Oceans and Fisheries

Kasey Stirling is Nlaka'pamux, Mi'kmaq, and Acadienne. She is a status member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band in Merritt, BC. She is from Williams Lake, the traditional territory of the T'exelcenc Nation (Williams Lake Indian Band, Secwepemc Peoples). Throughout her life, she has walked between two worlds: Western academic science, and Indigenous traditional knowledge. She received her Bachelor of Science from Simon Fraser University before entering graduate school at The University of British Columbia's Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries' new centre for Indigenous fisheries as a master's student, learning from Dr. Andrea Reid. She also holds a Chartered Herbalist Diploma from Dominion Herbal College as a complement to the many teachings of plants gifted to her by elders throughout her life. Kasey sees it as both a pleasure and a responsibility, being an Indigenous researcher trained in biochemistry research, to bring a perspective of Etuaptmumk (Two-Eyed Seeing as described by Mi'kmaq Elder Dr. Albert Marshall) to fisheries science.



**Emily Taylor**  
Tlowitsis Nation

University of British Columbia  
Master of Education - Educational Administration

My name is Emily Taylor, I am Kwakw̓a k̓a 'wakw from Mamillukulla Nation (Village Island BC.). I will complete my Master of Education in Educational Administration and Leadership and begin teaching Indigenous studies courses in the Fall. It is my goal to work as a leader in Indigenizing post-secondary institutions to meet the Calls to Action within the Truth and Reconciliation process. In the future, I also plan to begin a consulting company where I can guide and facilitate with other organizations in cultural competency, and indigenizing spaces for reconciliation.



**Reggie-Anne Harrold**  
Fort Nelson First Nation

University of British Columbia  
Master of Fine Arts

Reggie Harrold is a contemporary Indigenous artist based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. She is Slavey from the Fort Nelson First Nation and Shuswap from Canim Lake, BC. Reggie attended the University of British Columbia in Kelowna BC. for her Bachelor of Fine Arts and holds a diploma in Fashion Design from John Casablancas Institute in Vancouver BC., where she was awarded designer of the year. She will be continuing to start her Master's of Fine Arts at the University of British Columbia in fall 2021. Reggie is working towards creating an art-based fashion line shortly while also representing her indigenous heritage through her art.



**Deanna Laity**  
Tla'amin Nation

Yorkville University  
Master of Arts - Counselling Psychology

Deanna is from the Tla'amin Nation and is striving to reconnect with Indigenous culture and community through learning traditional crafts, research, and participating in local and round table events. Returning to school to do her master's after twenty-four years was a huge undertaking but she is looking forward to the next step of starting her practicum and graduation in August 2022! Working with youth has always been a passion and Deanna hopes to work with Indigenous youth in her local school district as well as in private practice. Thank you so much for this opportunity! It means so much to have this support and know that people believe in me and what I'm doing.



**Brandon McReynolds**  
Squamish Nation

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
Master of Business Administration

My name is Brandon McReynolds. I come from the Squamish Nation in North Vancouver. My ancestral name is Yetalten. I aspire to complete my MBA and pursue my hockey career at the pro level. I will then return to my community with hopes of advancing our economic development practices and creating generational wealth for my nation.



**Adina Reyes Williams**  
Squamish Nation

University of British Columbia  
Master of Arts - History

Hal7h Skwayel (Good Day)! My name is Adina Williams and I am from the Squamish Nation. I am also Kwakwaka'wakw, descending from the 'Namgis peoples from Alert Bay, BC. I grew up and continue to live in my home community of Xwemelch'stn in West Vancouver. I will be starting my master's in history at UBC focussing on local Indigenous histories. I am deeply interested in this area of research as well as community-based research. I am very excited about this next step in my educational journey and I look forward to the challenges ahead in this work. I would like to sincerely thank the NRTF for their continued support of my education. This scholarship will help me greatly, especially at the start of the term when I begin to prepare for the school year. As an Indigenous student and a first-generation university student, I am immensely grateful to the donors and all those who make these scholarships possible for so many students. Huy chexw a. Gilakas'la.



**Marci Thomas**  
Nak'azdli Whut'en

University of Northern British Columbia  
Master of Business Administration

I am the mother of two boys, we are members of the Nak'azdli Whut'en and belong to the Lusilyoo Clan. I am in my final year of the Master of Business Administration program at UNBC. Learning to embody authentic leadership, and cultural intelligence is encouraging and inspiring to me. I am proud and thankful to have been selected for this award as it invests to empower citizens to transform into First Nations leaders who may enjoy a higher quality of life with the inclusion of vibrant cultures.

“I am proud and thankful to have been selected for this award as it invests to empower citizens to transform into First Nations leaders who may enjoy a higher quality of life with the inclusion of vibrant cultures.”

— Marci Thomas



**Jaidin Wale**  
Gitanmaax Band

University of British Columbia  
Juris Doctor

Ama silkwsa. I am from Gitanmaax in northern B.C., and I grew up on the territories of the Secwepemc, Nlaka'pamux, and Songhees Nations. My grandfather and my Gitksan family are Lax Gibuu and my mother is of German-English descent. I am the oldest of four siblings, an adoring auntie, and connected to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation through my partner. I am going into the final year of my law degree with a specialization in Aboriginal law at the University of British Columbia. Hamiya'a to the NRTF staff and sponsors for your support on my learning journey.



**Jacqueline Watts**  
Tseshaht First Nation

Simon Fraser University  
Executive Master of  
Business Administration

I am a member of the Tseshaht First Nation, Port Alberni, BC. My career goals after completing the IBL/EMBA, I plan to apply learned strategies and skills towards planning, and contributing to Indigenous Administration and Policy Implementation and also, towards the social sector, specifically, Indigenous Government. In my spare time, when I am not studying or attending Committee or Board Meetings, I enjoy hanging out with my family and continue to practice my traditional language. Chu (bye to one) Chooch (bye to many) Kleco (Thank you).



**Justin Almazan**  
Squamish Nation

McGill University  
Doctor of Music

Soon to begin my doctoral studies at McGill University in the fall of 2021, I found myself reflecting on the long road leading up to this point. As a first-generation university student, it was a continuous uphill battle to support myself and make it through my undergraduate degree and various diploma programs. In the last few semesters of my master's degree, the Covid-19 Pandemic hit. By some miraculous stroke of good fortune, I was granted support by the NRTF, which provided me with enough relief to focus on my studies while applying to doctoral programs. I am so thankful to have been able to thrive academically during the past two years, and I am so thrilled to continue to follow my life's calling in both music performance and research over the next three to four years.



**Amanda Bedard**  
Old Massett Village Council

Simon Fraser University  
Doctor of Philosophy - Individualized  
Interdisciplinary Studies

Jaskwaan Amanda Bedard is from the Tsiits Git'aneen Clan of G'aw Tlagee, Haida Gwaii. She is a mother, singer, Haida language learner and teacher and is in her third year of the Individualized Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program at Simon Fraser University. Jaskwaan aims to strengthen her Haida language dialect of Xaad Kil through unique programming and resource development. She is the Haida Language and Culture Curriculum Implementation Teacher for School District #50, the team lead for the Xaad Kil Nee Haida Language Office, and a regular course instructor for the Haida Gwaii Institute and SFU's Indigenous Language Program. Jaskwaan's completion of FPCC's three-year Mentor Apprentice Program learning Xaad Kil from the late Primrose Adams is her greatest education.



**Dalton Jones**  
Cheam First Nation

University of California, Los Angeles  
Doctor of Philosophy - Physics

My name is Dalton Jones, I am a First Nations member of the Cheam Band of Sto:lo Nation. I grew up in Whatcom County, WA in the rural areas of Maple Falls and then Everson. After high school, I studied physics at Western Washington University with the hopes that I could help develop useful and more sustainable technologies while also unlocking the secrets of the universe. In parallel, I continuously advocate for the voices of Indigenous students and scientists and am always seeking to encourage other Indigenous students to pursue careers in the sciences and improve the climate within STEM for underrepresented groups. I am currently a Ph.D. student in physics at UCLA and study theoretical condensed matter physics with a focus on quantum computing, energy storage, and topology in magnetic systems. After graduate school, I hope to work at a tech company, national lab, or university to continue my research in these areas. One of my goals is to strive to break down barriers between young Indigenous people and fields of study within STEM such that we can bring the profound intuitive nature of our people to the hard sciences.



**Jilleun Tenning**  
Stz'uminus First Nation

University of Victoria  
Doctor of Philosophy -  
Social Dimensions of Health

ÍY SÇÁĆEL HÁLE (Good day everyone), my name is Jilleun. I am Coast Salish on my father's side from the Stz'uminus First Nation. I am a Ph.D. student in the Social Dimensions of Health program at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. My research interests include critical disability studies, Indigenous rights, reclamation, sovereignty, and arts-based research methodologies. I have a strong commitment to harm reduction and have spent many years working with street-involved youth. I serve First Nations children and families living on and off reserves from a perspective of revitalization and resistance, building on the resiliency of her people who continue to survive and thrive in the face of continued oppression and colonization.



**Ryan Tomm**  
Tsal'alh

University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Philosophy - Psychology  
(Behavioural Neuroscience)

Hello, my name is Ryan Tomm and I am from Tsal'alh First Nation. I am currently working on my Ph.D. in Behavioural Neuroscience at UBC. My current research looks to increase our understanding of the pathophysiology of neural circuits in neuropsychiatric disorders like anxiety and depression. My career goal is to develop a strong research background so I can help inform policy decisions and health care delivery within our communities.



“My goal is to connect people with the natural world and be a steward of the land and water, as my ancestors were. I want to build my community stronger, protect Indigenous culture for future generations, and honour past ancestors. The effects of climate change and deforestation threaten the health of our world. I believe the solution is a combination of western science and Indigenous ways of knowing based upon reciprocity, gratitude and respect. Within my studies, I seek to find ways to incorporate traditional teachings and ways of knowing within the modern world and technologies.

**Owen Harris**  
NRT Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 85



“Shortly after graduating high school Breeann received a certificate in Sḵw̱x̱ wú7mesh Language Proficiency. Immediately after she was hired as a language intern alongside the Tsleil-Waututh Nation for a language intensive at an immersion-based house on the Burrard Reservation. She continued working alongside Kwi Awt Stelmexw (KAS) full-time as a Language Coordinator. Breeann is currently a student taking the Sḵw̱x̱ wú7mesh Language Diploma Program while continuing to work alongside KAS part-time.

**Breeann Baker**  
NRT Bursary Recipient

*Bio on page 60*

## SEEKING INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Help us make a difference by supporting Indigenous education now.

Your support will help an Indigenous student in BC to complete a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree. In addition, it will help the NRT Foundation to build an endowment fund that support 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 First Nations. By investing in Indigenous post-secondary education, every partner is realizing a student’s education goals, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and helping to create the skilled work force that will enable British Columbia to meet its future economic and social development needs. Each partnership is tailored to meet the needs of potential funding partners and BC First Nations.

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

### Empowering First Nations communities

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

**23%** gap in high school completion rates of Indigenous students compared to non-Indigenous Canadians.

**33.9%** of Indigenous people have some form of post-secondary compared to 54% of non-Indigenous Canadians, and \$2,000 less per capita is spent on First Nations primary & secondary education than the rest of BC.

## BUILDING A STRONG WORKFORCE

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



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;

Higher education for Indigenous people leads to better chances of employment. Indigenous communities are in close proximity to an overwhelming majority of urban centres, towns, and rural work sites;

and Indigenous people are looking to organizations as a partner to improve education and employment outcomes in their communities.

### Find out what you can do to help make a difference today.

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:

**Matt Cook-Contois**  
Senior Associate - Programs Specialist  
at (604) 925-3338  
[mattcookcontois@nrtf.ca](mailto:mattcookcontois@nrtf.ca)

**New Relationship Trust Foundation is a registered Canadian charity.**

“Glakasla, Nugwa'am Tla'tla'koith Hello,  
My name is Doreen Scow. I am from the  
Tlowitsis tribe in the Kwakwaka'wakw nation.  
I am currently attending Camosun College  
for the Indigenous studies program. After  
I am done at Camosun, I plan on going to  
the University of Victoria for the Indigenous  
language revitalization program. In the  
future, I want to become a teacher. I want  
to teach public schools about Indigenous  
peoples and do it in a good way.

**Doreen Scow**  
NRT Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 76



**This brochure was designed by  
Kirsten Whitney, a New Relationship Trust  
Foundation Undergraduate Award Alumni.**

Kalhwa7alap Nsnekwnúkwa7 SKirsten nskwátsitsa  
T'it'q'etmeckan. (Hello, friends/relatives/people, my  
name is Kirsten I grew up in the T'it'q'et community  
which is adjacent to the town of Lillooet, BC. T'it'q'et  
is one of 11 communities that is part of the St'át'imc  
Nation. My traditional name is Qwezqwazížken  
(blue bird). I am from the Scotchman/Leech family  
on my mom's side and the Smith family on my dad's  
side from Samahquam.

I graduated in 2017 from Emily Carr University of  
Art and Design with a Bachelor of Design (BDes),  
majoring in Communication Design and a minor in  
Curatorial Practices. I am a award recipient for the  
2021 RGD In-House Design Awards of  
Distinction (Judge's Picks) ([rgd.ca/2021/11/10/  
brand-refresh](https://rgd.ca/2021/11/10/brand-refresh)).

**GET IN TOUCH WITH KIRSTEN**

You can find my online portfolio at [krstndesign.com](https://krstndesign.com)  
[kirsten.7.whitney@gmail.com](mailto:kirsten.7.whitney@gmail.com)



**The NRT Foundation firmly believes in providing  
opportunities for past and present students.**

Investing in Indigenous youth builds our  
communities and paves the way for a strong  
Indigenous future. Kirsten's journey from an  
award recipient to our brochure designer  
highlights the NRT Foundation's commitment  
towards Indigenous resurgence and we thank  
her for sharing her talents with us!





# NRT

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