INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

2022/23

NRT



SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mike Bonshor

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation



Kory Wilson

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation



Clifford White

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation



Dara Parker

Director, New Relationship Trust Foundation

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2022–23 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.

In 2022–23, we provided funding support for 272 students. While most students are studying in BC, some students are completing their studies at institutions as far away as Northern Ontario School of Medicine and Utah Tech University.

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.

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 Technical Safety Authority of British Columbia and Coastal GasLink and two Individual donors as new partners. These partnerships supported the NRT Foundation education by providing ten additional undergraduate scholarships and five bursaries. We are grateful for our returning partners: The First Nations Health Authority, Canfor, The Keegan Combes Memorial Award, Drillwell Enterprises Ltd., and Peace Hills Trust. Together, we are closing the gap and investing in the future.

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.

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 3,659 scholarships and bursaries totaling $16.6 million in post-secondary financial aid.

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

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

3,659 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 1,934 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 1,725 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**

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
2022/23	113	112	29	18	-	272
TOTAL	**1612**	**1108**	**359**	**184**	**124**	**3,659**



EDUCATION GRANTS DISBURSED

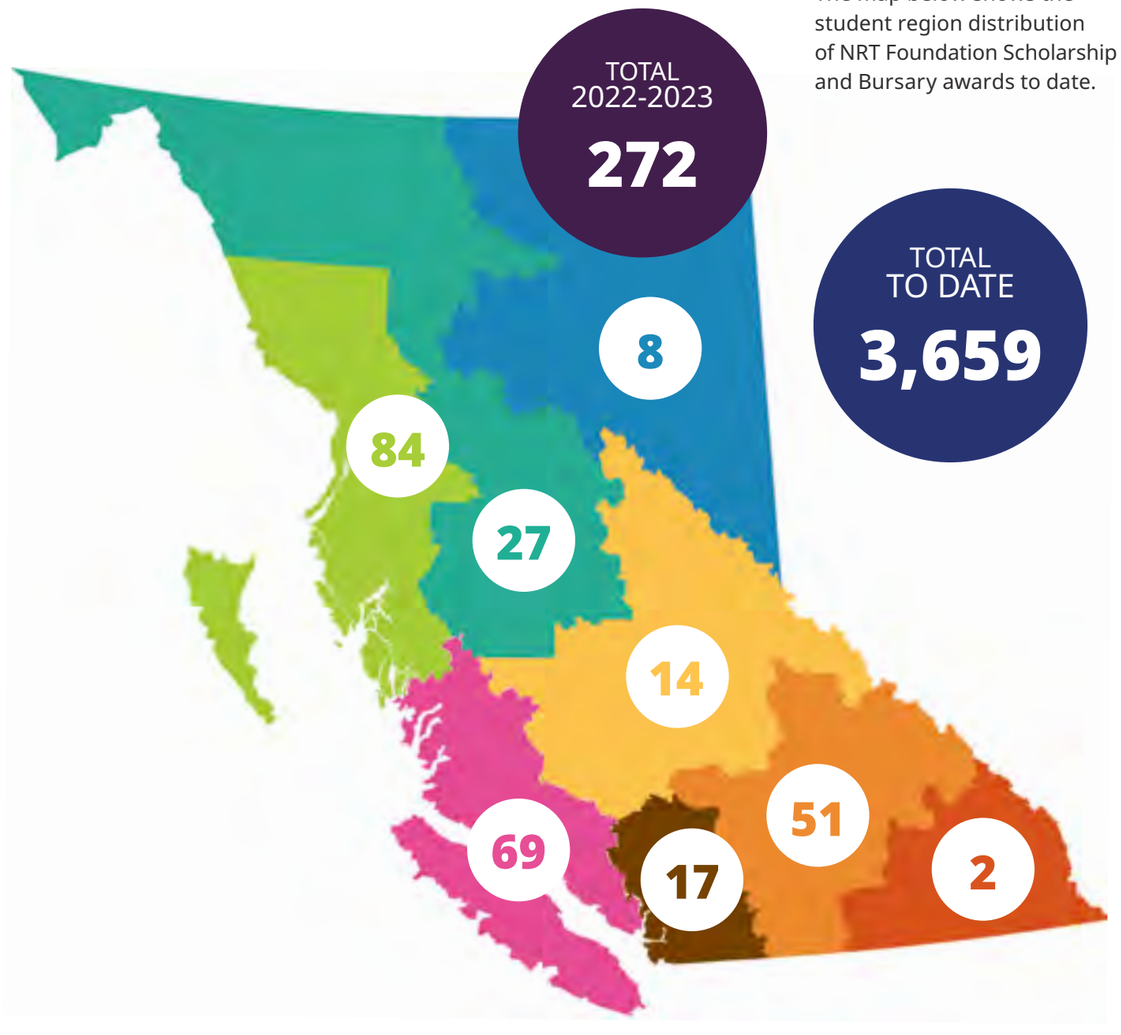
Since 2007, the NRT, NRT Foundation and Partners have distributed more than $16.6 million to support the post-secondary education of Indigenous people in BC.

EDUCATION LEVERAGED

	NRT/NRTF	PARTNERS	TOTAL
2007/08	$ 717,500	$ -	$ 717,500
2008/09	$ 763,000	$ -	$ 763,000
2009/10	$ 747,500	$ -	$ 747,500
2010/11	$ 743,000	$ -	$ 743,000
2011/12	$ 751,000	$ -	$ 751,000
2012/13	$ 581,500	$ 150,000	$ 731,500
2013/14	$ 404,000	$ 325,000	$ 729,000
2014/15	$ 495,500	$ 218,000	$ 713,500
2015/16	$ 488,500	$ 447,000	$ 935,500
2016/17	$ 596,500	$ 526,000	$ 1,122,500
2017/18	$ 606,500	$ 787,000	$ 1,393,500
2018/19	$ 546,000	$ 1,079,000	$ 1,625,000
2019/20	$ 596,500	$ 1,433,750	$ 2,030,250
2020/21	$ 600,000	$ 707,500	$ 1,307,500
2021/22	$ 599,000	$ 556,500	$ 1,155,500
2022/23	$ 551,495	$ 609,004	$ 1,160,500
TOTAL	**$ 9,787,495**	**$ 6,838,755**	**$ 16,626,250**

WHERE THE FUNDING GOES

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



PARTNERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

The contributions from our generous Partners allowed the NRT Foundation to support over 270 Indigenous students with Scholarships and Bursaries in 2022-23. Almost all Indigenous students face financial barriers while attending post-secondary school and 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, and creating the skilled work force that will enable BC to meet its future economic needs and social development needs.

Together, we are building a brighter future for all British Columbian's.

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

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

Andrea Reimer SCHOLARSHIP

Andrea Reimer Scholarship
On the eve of her 50th birthday Andrea Reimer started this scholarship. Andrea Reimer is well-known as a former Vancouver City Councillor but what most people don't know is that Andrea did not have the opportunity to get a degree from a post-secondary. Despite this at the age of 47, she was awarded a Loeb Fellowship from Harvard's Graduate School of Design in recognition of her world-leading efforts in local government policy-making. Always passionate about education, her year at Harvard was a catalyst for establishing this scholarship. There are so many voices that have gone unheard in building Canada's cities simply because they haven't had the opportunity or the encouragement, and nowhere is this more true than for urban Indigenous people. In whatever small way, Andrea hopes this scholarship provides that call to action for an Indigenous voice we need at the urban policy-making table.

Andrea Reimer Scholarship recipient bios begin on page 50.

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

Canfor recipient bios begin on page 52.

BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI)
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.

COFI recipient bios begin on page 58.

Coastal GasLink

Coastal Gaslink Scholarship
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 recipient bios begin on page 54.

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 60.

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.

The New Relationship Trust (NRT)
The New Relationship Trust (NRT) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening First Nations in BC through capacity building. NRT invests in BC First Nations by supporting them in five key capacity development areas: Governance Capacity, Education, Language, Youth & Elders, and Economic Development.

NRT recipient bios begin on page 71.

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 62.

Peace Hills Trust
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.

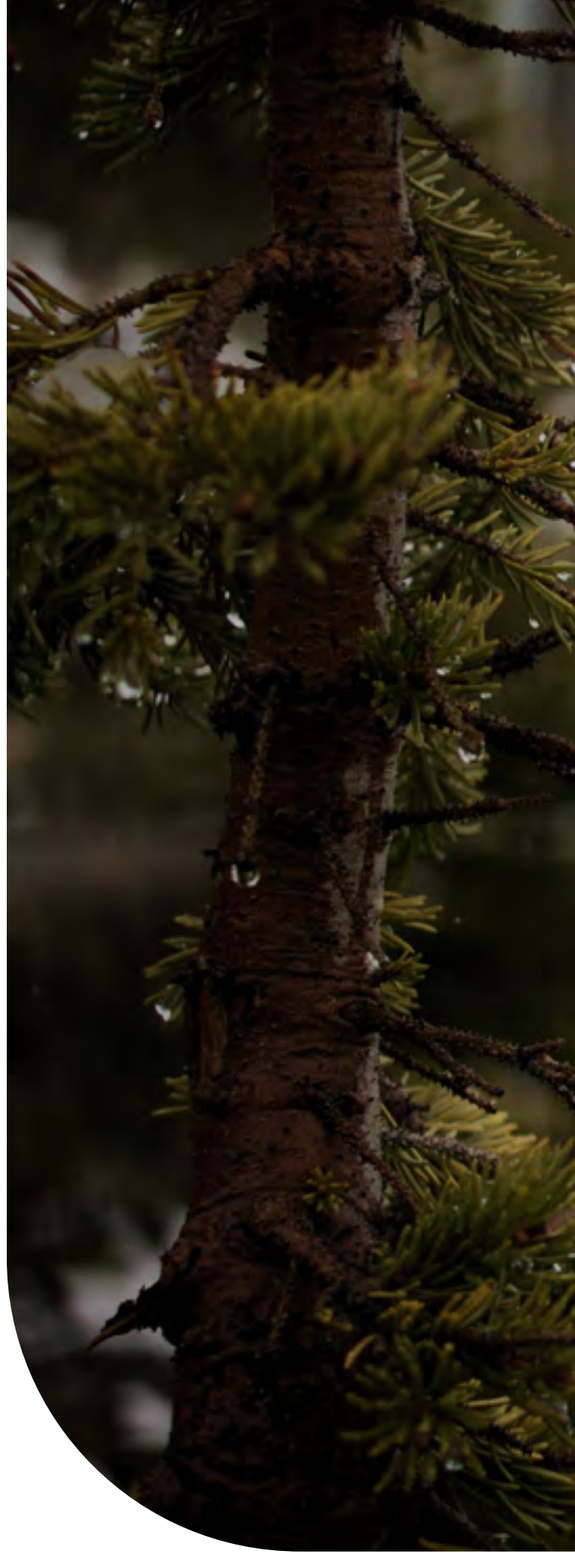
PHT recipient bios begin on page 64.

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 66.

Technical Safety BC
Technical Safety BC is an independent, self-funded organization that oversees the safe installation and operation of technical systems and equipment. We are a leader in technical expertise and safety education, with a vision of Safe technical systems. Everywhere. In addition to issuing permits, licenses and certificates, we work with industry to reduce safety risks through assessment, education and outreach, enforcement, and research. We strive to share knowledge and create partnerships across the province and with Indigenous Nations to build a robust safety system that serves all British Columbian's.

Technical Safety BC Scholarship recipient bios begin on page 68.



OUR PARTNERS | FNHA

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 multicultural 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

or email **careers@fnha.ca**





Alex Elliott

Williams Lake Indian Band

Okanagan Valley College
of Massage Therapy
Registered Massage Therapy

My name is Alex Elliott, I am from 150 Mile House and I am starting my second year of Registered Massage Therapy at the Okanagan Valley College of Massage Therapy in Vernon, BC. Year one was very challenging and rewarding and I am looking forward to my second year and the prospect of graduation. My career goals are to graduate, work for a reputable company and then start my own practice with an emphasis on First Nation clientele.

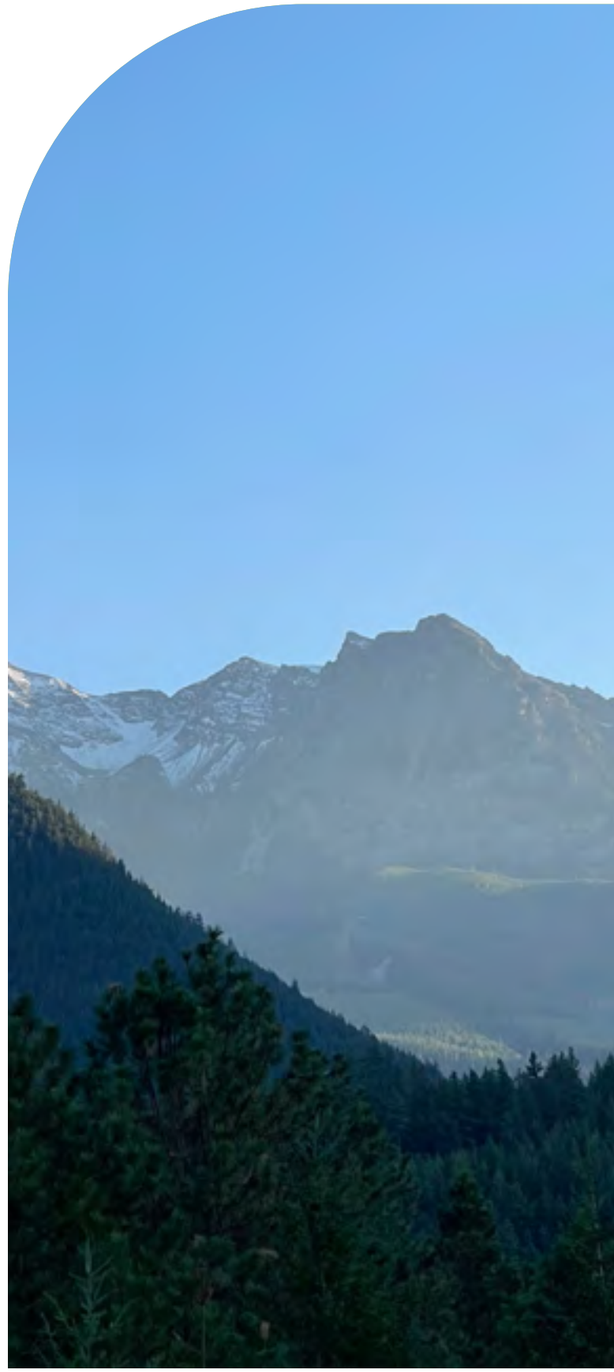


Allysha Tom

Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation

Sprott Shaw College
Medical Office Administrator
Health Unit Clerk

My name is Allysha Tom I am from the Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation, my career goal is to become a registered nurse. I have now completed my Health Care Assistant Certificate and my Medical Office Administration Health Unit Clerk Diploma Program.





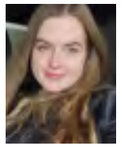
Alysha Quock
Tahltan Band Council
Vancouver College of
Counsellor Training
Youth and Family Support Worker

My name is Alysha Quock and I am from Yukon however my First Nation is Tahltan. I am currently studying to become a Youth and Family Support Worker. I am looking forward to becoming a support in my community and BC. This support means a lot to me and will help with my studies.



Alyssa Spence
Lax Kw'alaams Band
Native Education College
Family & Community
Counselling Diploma

I am Ts'msyen from Lax Kw'alaams, BC. I moved to Vancouver to begin my education in Social Work at Native Education College to complete the Family and Community Counselling Diploma. I am completing my second year at the moment, and hope to continue on to obtain my BSW at NVIT in 2023. I chose this field as I recognized a gap in obtaining mental health help, especially access to Indigenous counsellors. Having access to culturally safe mental health resources is necessary. I hope to become a registered counsellor so I can begin to bridge that gap and inspire more Indigenous people to do the same. T'oyaxsut nuun to NRTF and FNHA for awarding me this bursary. This foundation and its donors have helped me 2 years in a row now and it relieves so much financial burden, especially living in Vancouver. I am forever grateful to be able to continue my education.



Ashley Kinkead
Tzeachten First Nation
Vancouver Career College
Medical Office Assistant

Hello my name is Ashley Kinkead, I live in Chilliwack BC. I have a passion for sports, the outdoors, art and organization. Growing up as a Chi'yaqtel First nation community member I decided to pursue a career in the medical field so that one day I could help our people and our growing community. I decided that the Medical Office Assistant program would be the perfect stepping stone into Medical. I will be attending Vancouver career college to earn my certificate.



Ayee Weget-Whitney
T'ít'q'et Administration
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Health Care Aide

My name is Ayee Weget-Whitney, I am from the St'át'imc and Gitxsan Nation. At a young age I attended career fairs and explored my options. By receiving this award, I am able to fulfill my educational dreams of becoming a successful medical field worker. Being an award recipient has confirmed that I am walking the path my ancestors intended for me. While attending NVIT, I feel I have found my place where I can intertwine my passion and gifts. I have confirmed my attributes to ensure a successful career. I plan to gain experience all around turtle island throughout my career journey. Takem nsneknukwa7 (All my relations)



Bianca Swanson
Old Masset Village Council
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Indigenous Human Services Certificate

Jaada Xaad Kuuyas hinuu dii kyaang- my name is Precious Haida Lady. My English name is Bianca Swanson. I come from Old Masset, Haida Gwaii. I am a mother of 5 beautiful kids whom I receive my motivation from. I seen the opportunity to take the Indigenous Human Services Program in my hometown, and have been enjoying the courses thus far. I have been maintaining an A average, which is my short-term goal- to continue with the good grades and make the Dean's List. My long-term goal is constantly changing. Currently I would like to maintain my position at Community Living BC as a support worker and work my way up to permanent full-time employee. I would like to continue to work with those individuals with special needs and watch them thrive in their lives. My main goals in life are to continue on to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work, to continue giving my kids a great life, and make a difference in my community.

> "I am a mother of 5 beautiful kids whom I receive my motivation from. I would like to continue to work with those individuals with special needs and watch them thrive in their lives. My main goals in life are to continue on to obtain a Bachelor of Social Work, to continue giving my kids a great life, and make a difference in my community.
>
> **— Bianca Swanson**



Christina Smith
Tlowitsis Tribe
Douglas College
Therapeutic Recreation

Hello, I am Christina Smith. I am Tlowitsis/Mumtigila ancestry, from the Kwakwakawakw Nation. I walk in wellness on the Red Road. Restoring balance in our connection to self, others and the land/water. My lifestyle of active living as well as I enjoy helping others, resonates with the Therapy Recreation Program, at Douglas College. My future career, as a therapeutic recreation practitioner, shall be fulfilling and rewarding. I am honored to have been selected for a bursary from FNHA. Gilakasla, Kakasolas.



Christine Friesen
Nuxalk Nation
Stenberg College
Psychiatric Nursing

Before small pox ravaged the area, there were 200 communities and after small pox less than 200 people survived. They all came together and this is how Bella Coola was formed. Christine came from resiliency. She takes pride in being a Strong Resilient Nuxalk Woman and mother to her 5 beautiful children. She has worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse since 2009 and prior to that she has worked as a Resident Care Attendant since 2002. She is currently enrolled in Psychiatric Nursing and will graduate in 2024. She plans on working in the mental health/addictions field as she has two children living with mental illness. Christine has become an advocate and voice for those living with mental illness. Christine would like to further her education and go on to become a Nurse Practitioner with plans on working in a rural Indigenous community.



My passion is continually educating myself to assist me in my healing journey. I believe in continuous learning and pushing boundaries. My goal is to work with women in recovery to unlock their potential, ignite change to live their best lives. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to NRT for their contribution in assisting me with my educational goals. Meduh Cho

Linda Edzerza
FNHA Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 21



Ryan Ryan

Tahltan Band Council

Camosun College
Sports Management

Ryan is Tahltan from Northern BC. He went to the University of Calgary for a Double Degree in Education and English and taught in a middle school for 1 year in Calgary. Ryan returned home to BC in search of a new life when the Pandemic hit and changed his life and perspective. Ryan decided to change paths and moved to Victoria to pursue a new career in Sports Management. Now completing a Post-Degree Diploma, Ryan looks to advance his local community by creating a new sports club that focuses on giving Indigenous youth a place to safely explore their interests and pursue an active lifestyle.



Cynthia Burke

Fort Nelson First Nation

College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker UT

My name is Cynthia Burke, Dene woman from Fort Nelson First Nation. I am in my 1st year of the SSWK Diploma program at College of New Caledonia. My goal is to obtain my diploma where I am able to enhance my skills so I am able to help First Nations.



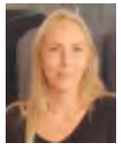
Destiny Johnny

Tl'etinqox Government

ABM College
Addiction and Community Support Worker

My name is Destiny Johnny, I'm from Williams Lake, British Columbia. I am from Tl'etinqox reservation(Anaham). My overall goal for my career is to help people who are struggling with addiction but to also spread awareness to it. With BC being the 2nd highest rate to over-dose, not everyone see's it as a problem when it definitely is. Addiction isnt just affecting the adults its also affecting our teens. Parents view it as "oh they're just being teenagers" but its more serious then how they are viewing it. Illicit drugs are now teens third choice of drug use which is horrible. That definitely shouldn't be their third choice. Schools lack educating these kids of the harms to drug use and overall refuses to believe that a teen has struggles. So my goal is to try and get schools to educate these kids about drug use and the rise to overdose, more needs to be done. Older adults wont take the time to listen to their story, so I want to be that person for them, these kids don't deserve to feel like what they have to say doesn't matter and thats what these older adults are doing.

> My overall goal for my career is to help people who are struggling with addiction but to also spread awareness to it. With BC being the 2nd highest rate to overdose
>
> **— Destiny Johnny**



Gina Sorochinski

Okanagan Indian Band

Bow Valley College

Addiction Studies Diploma

Hi there, My name is Gina Sorochinski, originally from beautiful British Columbia, member of the Okanagan Band. I am currently living and studying in Calgary, Alberta. I am grateful for your generous donation and to be selected as a recipient of the First Nations Health Authority award. I am so excited to have started my Addictions Studies courses today and because of you I am one step closer to reaching my goals. My course has Aboriginal aspects to it so not only do I get to discover more about myself and my culture, I will be in a field that will allow me to start the healing process with others who suffer from many years of intergenerational trauma. This is my dream career and I look forward to be able to give back to the community who need it most. Thank you very much for your generosity. Gina Sorochinski



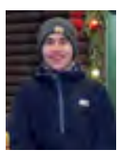
Joelle Lulua

Xeni Gwet-in First Nations Government

Vancouver Community College

University Transfer

I am Tŝilhqot'in from Xeni Gwet'in First Nation's Government. I was born in Williams Lake and raised within the Chilcotin, Okanagan, and Shuswap territories until I was twelve. I was then raised in Oakland, California, until I was nineteen. After I got pregnant with my eldest child and read all of the prenatal and baby books, I realized what my passion was. I want to be there for indigenous mothers and help decolonize births; and safely bring back traditional birthing techniques.



Hunter Gladstone

Heiltsuk Nation

Capilano University

Outdoor Recreation Management

Hello my name is Hunter Gladstone, I am from the Heiltsuk Nation. I am currently attending Capilano University in the Outdoor Recreation Management program and upon completion I will be searching for jobs within the tourism business.



Katrina Thiessen

Coldwater Indian Band

Kootenay Columbia College of Integrative Health Sciences

Acupuncture

My name is Katrina Thiessen and I am in a stage in my life where I'm reaching for the stars and expanding my life. I have just completed my first year in the Acupuncture program at Kootenay Columbia College. My first step was hard, and I'm sure the next steps will be as well, however the effort is worth it in the end.



Kelsa Carmen

We Wai Kai

Vancouver Island University

Licensed Practical Nursing

My name is Kelsa Carmen. I was born and raised in Nanaimo, British Columbia. My long-term career goal is to work within the healthcare industry of British Columbia and help incorporate more accessible health services and health promotion strategies throughout all communities of our province.



Kiera Yeomans

Old Masset Village Council

Langara College

Foundations in Health Studies

Hi my name is Kiera Yeomans. I am Tsimshian and Haida on my mother's side and Nisga'a on my father's side. I am currently studying at Langara college in hopes to transfer to University of British Columbia and fulfill my goal of becoming an English teacher in secondary schools.

> "I am in a stage in my life where I'm reaching for the stars and expanding my life. I have just completed my first year in the Acupuncture program at Kootenay Columbia College. My first step was hard, and I'm sure the next steps will be as well, however the effort is worth it in the end.
>
> **— Katrina Thiessen**



Linae Point

Musqueam Indian Band

Sprott Shaw College

Community Support Worker Diploma

I was mostly raised in my mother's community in Port Renfrew BC, Pacheedaht First Nations. I'm currently completing the Community Support Worker Diploma at Sprott Shaw College. I have a passion for supporting and empowering our Indigenous people and communities. My life long goal is to break as many unhealthy generational cycles as possible so my children and future grandchildren can live a happy healthy life. I am a mother of three beautiful children, as well as one step daughter, who I strive to be a better person for each and everyday. I hope my journey can inspire other indigenous women especially young mothers to pursue their education goals as well!



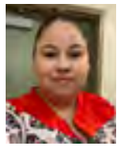
Linda Edzerza

Dease River First Nation

Canada Coaching Academy

Life & Wellness Coaching

My traditional name is behgehyale (which means butterfly). I was given that name because I visited all the Elders in the community listening to their stories. I am a member of the Tahltan Nation, from the Crow Clan, I am a grateful mother of 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. My passion is continually educating myself to assist me in my healing journey. I believe in continuous learning and pushing boundaries. My goal is to work with women in recovery to unlock their potential, ignite change to live their best lives. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to NRT for their contribution in assisting me with my educational goals. Meduh Cho



May Cooper/North

Toosey Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University
Licensed Practical Nursing

Hello my name is May Cooper I have been working towards my Nursing career will be going on 4 years this coming school year. My mom is a residential school survivor and my husband is a day school survivor. I am a mom of 3 amazing children I'm very blessed to have the support from my family without them I wouldn't have made it this far. I've struggled and failed many times but my dad always said "giving up in life wont get you anywhere " I haven't given up yet.

> "My mom is a residential school survivor and my husband is a day school survivor. I am a mom of 3 amazing children I'm very blessed to have the support from my family without them I wouldn't have made it this far. I've struggled and failed many times but my dad always said "giving up in life wont get you anywhere " I haven't given up yet.
>
> **— Mary Cooper/North**



Nadine Hoover

Witset

College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker UT

My name is Nadine Hoover, I am from Witset, BC. I am a mother of two beautiful daughters ages 7 and 11. I am currently working on my Social Work diploma, will eventually be working on getting my bachelors.



Norma Nahanee

Squamish First Nations

Native Education College
Family & Community
Counselling Diploma

My career of choice is with in Humanities and social services which, I had started during the year of 2015. In present time my goals are to complete the Family Community counselling diploma program and once completed. This course will open an opportunity to transfer into a third year for a Bachelors of Arts in Social work with Indigenous practices towards health and wellbeing. For I am very passionate to help our Indigenous people and looking forward to new opportunities with receiving a higher education. Sincerely Norma Nahanee. Ancestral name: Tsaweltsaliya



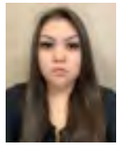
Sherri Marino

Esk'etemc

Native Education College
Family & Community
Counselling Diploma

I raise my hands to NRT for helping me along the way in this educational journey! I never thought I would achieve such success as an adult whom has been out of school for the past 30 years, I am now entering into my second year and I am so grateful for the opportunity to apply for bursaries from New Relationship Trust to help me get through schooling and light-ening the burden of financial stress! It really makes a huge difference, I thank my donor, FNHA, for the gift of this bursary and believing in me, and I thank NRT for supporting all of our Indigenous relations to pursue their education with financial support from these wonderful donors!! All My Relations, Kukwstsetsemc!

> "I was raised in Prince Rupert, BC by my single mother, Joan. I started expressing my passion to help others from a young age and always kind of knew that I would wind up some where in the counselling field. Going forward I would really like to persue my goal of getting my masters in Psychology and then specialize in Psychedelic-Assisted therapy.
>
> **— Tehya Jaeger**



Talesha Erickson

Gingolx

Native Education College
Family & Community
Counselling Diploma

My name is Talesha Erickson. I am from the Nisga'a Nation. My family originates from the Village of Gingolx BC. I am hoping my education takes me many places, such as, youth work, Family Mediation, Foster Parenting, and working within the school board to work with Indigenous youth and families. Strategies throughout all communities of our province.



Teanna Ducharme

Gitwinksihlkw

Native Education College
Health Care Assistant Program

My name is Aygadim Majagalee-Teanna Ducharme, I come from the community of Gitwinksihlkw. Currently, I am enrolled in the Health Care Assistant program at Native Education College. I am very grateful to receive this gift from NRT to support me on my education journey. T'ooyaksiy nisim!!

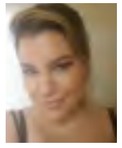


Tehya Jaeger

Metlakatla Band

Vancouver College of Counsellor Training
Counselling

My name is Tehya Jaeger and I am 26 years old, I was raised in Prince Rupert, BC by my single mother, Joan. I started expressing my passion to help others from a young age and always kind of knew that I would wind up some where in the counselling field. Going forward I would really like to pursue my goal of getting my masters in Psychology and then specialize in Psychedelic-Assisted therapy.



Trisha Trisha Paniagua

Old Masset Village Council

Rhodes Wellness College
Professional Counselling Diploma

My name is Trisha Paniagua I am from Prince Rupert BC. I am in the Professional Counsellor program at Rhodes Wellness College. I'm in my second year and I aspire to be a counsellor and life coach, I want to open my own private practice and be able to offer my services to the surrounding villages near Prince Rupert. I am a proud mother of 7. I want to be successful and to help our nations heal from all forms of trauma. I will continue on my path of learning so that I can offer as much help as possible and become a dynamic helper. I want to leave a legacy of kindness, compassion and healing for generations to come.

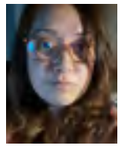
FNHA | Bursary



Vernon Dudoward
Lax-kw'alaams Indian Band

Native Education College
Family & Community
Counselling Diploma

My name is Vernon Dudoward, I am Tsimshian,from the village Lax Kw'alaams & Kitsumkalum. My career goals are to become a Social Worker, Currently attending the second year of the Family & Community Counselling program at Native Education College in Vancouver, BC.



Wynne Vaughan
Ulkatcho Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University
Human Service Diploma

My name is Wynne Vaughan and I am from a small community called Anahim Lake. I have worked very hard in the past two years to complete my Human Service Diploma. My goal when I finished is to work with Indigenous Youth in the Community of Williams Lake. I plan to work for a while but also to continue my training by being a certified horseback riding instructor, then creating a program with my own horses to work with Youth in a one-on-one program.



Whitney Blackwater
Kispiox Band Council

Coast Mountain College
Access to Practical Nursing

Hi, my name is Whitney Blackwater. I am a Gitxsan/Tsimshian woman I grew up in Kispiox, BC. My career goal is to continue my journey in the health field. I have 10 years experience as a health care assistant, now in my final months of the practical nurse program. I will gain two years experience and then bridge into the Registered nurse program.

> "My goal when I finished is to work with Indigenous Youth in the Community of Williams Lake. I plan to work for a while but also to continue my training by being a certified horseback riding instructor, then creating a program with my own horses to work with Youth in a one-on-one program.
>
> **— Wynne Vaughan**

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Adrian Van de Mosselaer
Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I am an Indigenous male that uses he/him pronouns from Kelowna. It has been such a rewarding journey to have had many careers before going back to school. Beginning with upgrading courses at the Okanagan College and now in my 3rd year of nursing at the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO), I couldn't be more thankful for the opportunity to be pursuing a bachelors degree. I would really like to be able to go on to support wellness and health within Indigenous communities with the hope of furthering my education once I complete my bachelors degree.



Alexis Langille
Ktunaxa Nation

University of Calgary
Bachelor of Science - Biological Sciences

My name is Alexis Langille. I'm from Ktunaxa Nation in British Columbia. I am currently in my second year of my Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Calgary. After completion of my degree, I intend to pursue my Master's Degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology to pursue research work surrounding genetics and viruses. I would like to further study epigenetics and the effect that trauma has intergenerationally..

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Amber-lyn May
Tahltan Band Council

Laurentian University

Bachelor of Science - Forensic Science

I go to Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario and I play on their women's varsity basketball team. I am currently in my second year studying forensic science, where in my first year I was a U-Sports Academic All-Canadian. I am a part of the Tahltan Nation and I am a wolf. I come from a huge family, being the 8th child out of 11. With my degree, I plan on being a forensic science technician, and further down my career path I would love to attend medical school and become a medical examiner. I am currently interested in specializing in serology or anthropology, but for now I'm still learning about all my future opportunities. I am extremely grateful for this award and it means a lot to be able to be supported in achieving my academic and career goals. Thank you!

Benjamin Bowyer
Penticton Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Kinesiology

I am currently enrolled in my fourth year at UBC in Vancouver, completing my Bachelor's of Kinesiology. I am working as an intern for my degree this semester, performing exercise counselling for people with spinal cord injury at Blusson Spinal Cord Centre. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities I have been provided in my education thus far, and I am hoping to one day to complete a Master's of Physical Therapy to provide a better life for people with arthritis and physical disabilities.



Bethany Robertson
'Namgis First Nation

Summit Pacific College

Bachelor of Arts - Religion

I am from Langley B.C. and am currently studying to become a registered clinical counsellor. With help from the NRT Foundation I will be able to continue my education and work towards this goal. In the future my hope is to reach those within and outside of the Indigenous community and to support them through struggles with mental health or the challenges that day to day life brings.



Brendan Eshom
Gitga'at Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science

Brendan Eshom is a member of the Gitga'at (Hartley Bay) First Nation. This upcoming year he is continuing the third year of his bachelor's degree, where his studies blend the fields of the life sciences and environmental science.



Celestine Sampson
Stz'uminus First Nation

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Uy skweyul. I currently work as a Health Care Aide in my community, Stz'uminus First Nation. I love my job but inspire to gain more education to become an RN. I am excited to begin my first, out of four years, of schooling to pursue my goal. Working in the health care system I hope to make more positive experiences for Aboriginals in whole.



"My name is Ayee Weget-Whitney, I am from the St'át'imc and Gitxsan Nation. At a young age I attended career fairs and explored my options. By receiving this award, I am able to fulfill my educational dreams of becoming a successful medical field worker. Being an award recipient has confirmed that I am walking the path my ancestors intended for me. While attending NVIT, I feel I have found my place where I can intertwine my passion and gifts. I have confirmed my attributes to ensure a successful career. I plan to gain experience all around turtle island throughout my career journey. Takem nsneknukwa7 (All my relations)

Ayee Weget-Whitney
FNHA Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 16



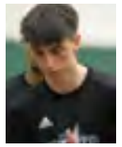
Christina Tsuil-Menak

Bonaparte First Nation

Camosun College

Bachelor 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 Metís and settler heritage. I am a single mom of two beautiful children. I am entering the second year of my four-year program to become a Public Health Nurse. My career goal is to complete my Ph.D. in Nursing and support Indigenous students at a university level.



Devan Boyko

Skidegate Band Council

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Kinesiology

My name is Devan Boyko and i from Haida Gwaii. I am from the Yahgu'laanaas clan of the Haida tribe. My Haida name is T'aa Giidii. I am entering my third year at Vancouver Island University. I am a varsity athlete on the VIU Mariners basketball team. My long Term term goal is to be a physiotherapist for my isolated island community. Currently it is hard to retain health professionals. I think I take my health very serious and I'm a healthy role model for youth back home and hope to make a difference.



Daniel Clark

Okanagan Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Health and Exercise Sciences

My name is Daniel Clark. I'm from Vernon, British Columbia and I'm a third-year student at University of British Columbia studying for a Bachelor's in Health and Exercise Sciences. My career ambition is to promote healthy living through the various, neglected aspects of living. I firmly believe that optimal human movement can promote more graceful aging. My own personal, first-hand experience with bettering my own body mechanics has shown me the wide range of advantages that can result from better movement patterns. Having experienced this, I became interested in occupational therapy, which is one of my long-term goals.



Erin Gustafson

Gitanmaax Band Council

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hello, my name is Erin and I am born and raised in Kamloops. I am entering my third year of Bachelor of Science in Nursing. My goal with my education is to work within my community providing health care services to Elders, seniors and those in need.

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Hailey Josephson

Snuneymuxw First Nation

University of Alberta

Dietetics Specialization

Hailey Josephson is a fifth-year Dietetics student at the University of Alberta. She is from a small town in British Columbia called Gibsons and is a member of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. She will complete 1500+ hours of required internship and graduate in the Spring of 2023. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a career in clinical dietetics, working with Indigenous populations. She is passionate about providing accessible healthcare for all and can't wait to get started on her next chapter in life!



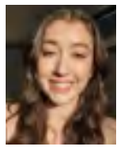
Hayley Ellis

We Wai Kai

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

My name is Hayley Ellis, I am from the We Wai Kai Nation and graduated from Carihi Secondary School. I currently live in Victoria and attend the University of Victoria where I am in my 3rd year of my BA in Psychology . I feel extremely grateful to be given the opportunity to pursue an education that will be a great foundation for my future career. Being the first in my family to attend university has made it challenging to navigate academia, however it is a challenge I have always been excited to navigate. I am hoping to complete an honours thesis next year alongside the incredible faculty that have supported my learning in psychology at UVIC. I have a large interest in prevention, intervention, research, and policy in the context of complex trauma, substance use disorders, and neurodevelopmental disorders. I am hoping to eventually pursue a Masters and PhD in Clinical Psychology. In this, I hope to work with marginalized groups using trauma-informed and culturally relevant methods to help support individual, familial, and community wellbeing.



Hannah McKay

Gingolx

University of Toronto

Medical Radiation Sciences - Radiation Therapy

My name is Hannah McKay. I have lived in and around Toronto my whole life. I have already graduated my Medical Physics program with honours and am starting a Radiation Therapy program now. I hope to be in the medical field in the future. I am also the first one in my family to pursue post-secondary education, so this has been a very exciting journey for my parents and me. I am so grateful to have so much support from my family and the community.

> "Being the first in my family to attend university has made it challenging to navigate academia, however it is a challenge I have always been excited to navigate. I am hoping to complete an honours thesis next year alongside the incredible faculty that have supported my learning in psychology at UVIC.
>
> **— Hayley Ellis**



Helen Stephens

Gitlaxtaamiks

Simon Fraser University

Bachelor of Arts - Cognitive Science

I am currently living in Vancouver and pursuing the completion of my program in the next 2 years of my Bachelors of Arts in Cognitive Science, after which I will continue onto my masters degree. As I am on my educational journey I consider my cultural learning journey to be utmost important to me. I seek knowledge from my mother, who has been teaching me how to preserve our foods from the lands I come from along with the protocols that go along with ceremony. I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for the financial support I have received to further my education. I am grateful for receiving the award from the First Nations Health Authority which has allowed me to focus on learning. Thank you to the foundation for the support offered to Indigenous students over the years. T'ooyaḵsiḿ ḥisim!



Jamieson Coukell

Gitwangak Band Council

University of British Colombia

Bachelor of Kinesiology

I am a member of the Gitxsan Nation from the house of Malii. I am Gitxsan on my mother's side and have mixed European settler ancestry on my father's side. I am currently entering my second year in Kinesiology at the University of British Columbia. Despite living outside my home community of Gitwangak, I have the privilege of living with my grandma, who has taught me about my culture. Upon completing my undergraduate degree in Kinesiology, I plan to pursue a master's degree in Physical Therapy and become a Physical Therapist. My goal is to extend my work to Gitwangak and give back to my community, which continues to support me throughout my post-secondary journey. I want to thank the NRTF for supporting and encouraging Indigenous students like myself to pursue higher education and for providing the means to do so.



Jade Thomson

Wuikinuxv

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Arts - Sociology

Hi! My name is Jade, and I am from Wuikinuxv First Nation. I lived in Kelowna most of my life and have been living on Vancouver Island for the last few years for my degree! I'm in my last year of University and will be graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Sociology and a minor in Political Studies. I'm looking to work for local non-profits and/or government in the future. I am so beyond excited and thankful to be given this award, and am looking forward to graduating!



Jasmine Magdanz

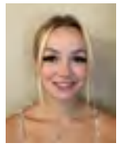
T'Sou-ke Nation

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Social Work

This year, I graduate with a Bachelors of Social Work Indigenous Specialization. I chose to pursue this career because I see a need for more Indigenous social workers as a way to decolonize practices of helping. My long-term goals are to return for my masters in clinical counselling and continue my passion of creating safer spaces for our Elders in western health care settings. I am incredibly excited to transition from student to helper in my community! HÍSW̱ KE

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Jessica Kapalka

Nadleh Whut'en Band

Camosun College

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Jess Kapalka and I am a proud member of the Nadleh Whut'en Band. It has always been a passion of mine to help people. I have worked very hard towards achieving my goals. I am excited to be starting my first year of post secondary studying Nursing at Camosun College in Victoria. I plan to become a registered nurse after graduation. I would like to specialize in pediatrics or travel nursing, traveling to different communities to provide my help. I am extremely thankful to those who have helped me within school and to the NRTF and the First Nations Health Authority for their generosity with this award.



Jordan Kapalka

Nadleh Whut'en Band

Camosun College

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Jordan and I am a proud member of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation. I am going into my second year of nursing at Camosun College. I plan to pursue a career as a registered nurse, specializing in either pediatrics or labour and delivery. I have always wanted a career that focuses on helping people. I hope that with this career I can serve as an advocate and positive role model for my community. I am so thankful for my family and community in helping along my journey towards becoming an RN. I also want to express my gratitude towards the NRT Foundation and the First Nations Health Authority for their support through this award as it will greatly help me throughout post secondary.



Josie Duncan

Xats'ull First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Midwifery

My family on my mother's side is Secwépemc and Austrian, and my father's side is Scottish and Lithuanian. It is my privilege to be studying on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people at the University of British Columbia. Growing up in Lac La Hache, BC has given me firsthand experience of what it is like to have under-served access to adequate and culturally competent health care. I am entering my third year in the Bachelor of Midwifery Program and working towards bridging the significant gap in care to rural communities. During my first two years in the program, I held the role of Indigenous co-representative for the Midwifery Students Association. In early 2021, myself and other students who identify as Indigenous, Black, or People of Colour (IBPOC) and clinical faculty member, Michelle Turner, RM, founded UBC Midwifery's Racial Equity Action Committee and Task Force (REACT). These roles are intended to strengthen and support BIPOC students, increase retention within the program and profession, and dismantle colonial practices.

> "I have always wanted a career that focuses on helping people. I hope that with this career I can serve as an advocate and positive role model for my community. I am so thankful for my family and community in helping along my journey towards becoming an RN.
>
> **— Jordan Kapalka**



Julia Stephens

Gitlaxtaamiks

Simon Fraser University

Bachelor of Arts - Cognitive Science

My educational goals include working towards working with individuals to add to the quality of life by understanding and working through life's challenges and experiences so I can give back to the communities that have supported my educational journey. Thank you to everyone who is involved in providing the opportunity to attend university by giving monetary relief to my family. I am grateful for the stress relief so I can focus on being a mother while working towards completing my degree while simultaneously teaching my children what it is to be Nisga'a. Passing on the knowledge to my children brings me great joy to know they too can one day pass on the knowledge. My life is much brighter with the help from NRTF, and I am grateful! Thank you all!



Katherine Eckert

Katzie First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science

I'm Katherine Eckert. I'm currently in my second year in the Bachelor of Sciences at the University of British Columbia. Since a young age, I've always been fascinated with immunology and virology. I plan to pursue my studies focused around those subjects and am very excited for the coming years. For my future goals, I want to be able to help keep communities healthy and in particular I'm quite interested in making a positive impact on women's health. Thank you to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for helping me along my journey.



Katelyn Korpan

Whispering Pines/ Clinton Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My goal is to become a Nurse. I chose to go into nursing as I want to be in a profession that helps people. I have been through so many people in my life dying and I want to be able to help save people and stop preventable deaths from happening. Nursing is the career that offers that for me, a way to help save lives. After I graduate I am hoping to go into the Canadian Armed Forces as a Medical Officer and help on the front lines saving lives. I want to say thank you to NRTF who have allowed me to pursue my goals and help me focus on learning to save lives.



Katie Creyke

Ts'il Kaz Koh

University of Northern British Columbia

Northern Baccalaureate Nursing

My career goal is to become a rural health nurse, working in the northern communities of British Columbia. One of the most rewarding aspects of a career in nursing is getting to connect with patients on such an intimate level. While we often meet under very difficult times in their lives, being able to support them and be present as they fight their serious health challenges, we get the opportunity to play an important role in their lives which is something i will never take for granted. I am grateful to be a recipient of the First Nations Health Authority Award, the support allows me to continue to focus on my studies and lessens the financial stressors of school. Thank you!

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Kristen Clair

Quatsino First Nation

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name Is Kristen Clair and I come from the strong Indigenous roots of the Kwak-waka'wakw people on the northern end of Vancouver Island. I am very grateful for the support that the NRTF has provided me throughout nursing school. I will be completing my fourth and final year of nursing school this fall to obtain my bach-elor of science in nursing at the University of Victoria. Thank you so much for sup-porting Indigenous students like myself as I obtain a post-secondary education. Gilakas'la!



Louis Gagnon

Witset

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Kinesiology

My name is Louis Gagnon, I am from the village of Witset. I am currently in the process of gaining the requirements to be accepted into the masters program for Occupational therapy that is being hosted by UBC/UNBC. My ultimate plan is to gain the skills and credentials necessary to practice as an Occupational Therapist in the North, where there currently is a shortage.

> My ultimate plan is to gain the skills and credentials necessary to practice as an Occupational Therapist in the North, where there currently is a shortage.
>
> **— Louis Gagnon**



Lisa Wilson

Xaxli'p

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Kîsikâw ahcâhk iskwêw, Sḵúźús, or Lisa Wilson. I am a Mushkeg-owuk (Cree) and St'át'imc (Interior Salish) woman living, creating, and studying on Secwépemc territory in BC. I am 25-years-old and currently a 4th-year Bachelor of Social Work student at Thompson Rivers University. It is my ambition to one day create a space in mental health work that prioritizes úcwalmicw (person of the land) ways of healing and being.



Madison Kaminski

Simpcw First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science - Food Nutrition and Health

My name is Madison Kaminski, I'm a third-year student attending the University of British Columbia located in Vancouver BC. At UBC I'm studying to become a dietitian where I will help patients create sustainable and attainable dietary habits to increase their overall health and nutrition. When I complete the Dietetics Major, I hope to work at a hospital where I will have the opportunity to use what I've learned at UBC to help others.

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Mary Angus

Laxgalt'sap

University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Mary Angus, I am Nisga'a and currently living in Kelowna, BC completing my Undergraduate for Bachelor of Science in Nursing at UBCO. I am entering my third year in the program. My career goal is to become an RN and go back to school for my doctorate and be a nurse practitioner. I plan on opening up my own practice back home in rural communities and specialize in either cardiac or diabetes and nutrition.



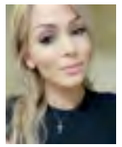
Neleah Chillihitzia

Upper Nicola Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hello, my name is Neleah Chillihitzia and I am from the Upper Nicola Indian Band. I am currently attending Thompson Rivers University to complete my Bachelors of Science in Nursing. When I graduate I plan to specialize in Labour and Delivery as well as in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. I have always wanted to go into health care and through personal experiences within my family I felt I would be able to help and interact with people more as a registered nurse. I am grateful to the First Nations Health Authority and the NRT foundation for supporting my learning and goals!





Shatasha Wesley

Lax-kw'alaams Indian Band

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Social Work

My name is Tasha Wesley, I am Haida and Tsimshian from Lax Kw' Alaams, BC. I am the mother of three children. I reside on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations. My career goal is to work as a Social Worker in Vancouver, I hope to work with Indigenous families and children. My future education and career goals are to complete my Masters in counselling psychology and work as a therapist.



Riley Sutton

T'Sou-ke Nation

Camosun College
Bachelor 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 wish to work as travel nurse, mostly travelling to remote Indigenous communities within Canada. I am very grateful for the support I am receiving from the New Relationship Trust.

As a nurse in my community I will be able to help all band members especially Elders access quality health care without travelling far. We are one nation spread over two villages with just under three hundred band members. Being T'Sou-ke myself I know all of the families in our nation. I think this will help a lot in trust building and working with people on a meaningful level.



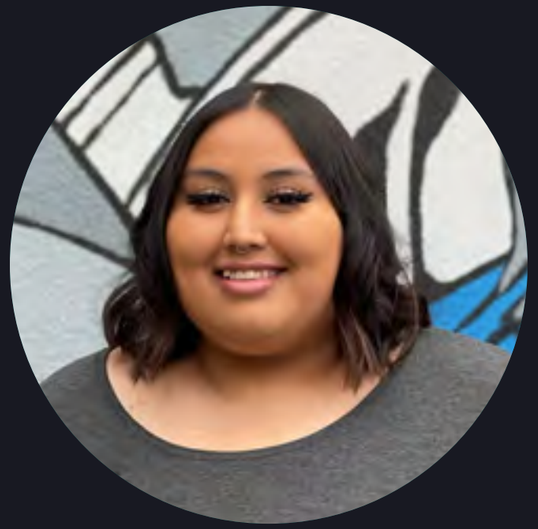
Samantha Delacherois

Westbank First Nation

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Social Work

way̓ x̌ast sx̌əlx̌ʕalt (Hello, good day). My name is Sam Delacherois. I am a proud member of Westbank First Nation on my mother's side, with mixed European ancestry on both sides of my family. I am in my fourth year of my Bachelor of Social Work with an Indigenous Specialization from the University of Victoria. I also work part-time as an Aboriginal Patient Navigator for Interior Health and as a contract Gladue Report Writer with the BC First Nations Justice Council. After graduation in April 2023, I hope to continue working within healthcare to support Indigenous patients in accessing culturally-safe services. I also plan to pursue my Masters in Social Work so that I have even more opportunities to support individuals on their journeys. Thank you very much to the NRT Foundation and FNHA for selecting me for this award.

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Saidra Aubichon-Archie

Stswecem'c Xgat'tem

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

My name is Saidra Aubichon-Archie and I am Secwepemcstín from the Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation in Interior British Columbia. I grew up in Williams Lake, British Columbia where I spent most of my life before moving to Kelowna, British Columbia. I am currently in my first year of my Bachelor of Arts at the University of British Columbia where I plan to get a psychology major and anthropology minor. After completing my degree, I plan to complete my Master of Health Psychology and become a counsellor. I later plan to move back to my reserve where I'll work as a counsellor and help my fellow community members rediscover themselves and find their healing paths. Many of the members of my family and community attended Residential Schools which started a long line of generational and intergenerational trauma. Seeing many of the people I know suffer from the effects of Residential Schools, it became my passion for helping people and providing a safe space for those around me. In pursuing my education, I am becoming the change I want to see in myself and my community.



Selena Blake

Skidegate Band Council

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My traditional name is T'aaguu Hlgaawan Dyad, which translates to 'balance with a copper shield,' and I am from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am a proud member of the Haida Nation and feel privileged to be part of the Kaadass Gaah K'iiguwaay Clan of Tanu. It is my final year of the UVIC BSN program, and I look forward to beginning my career as a registered nurse in 2023. My career goals have been fluid throughout the years; however, I always have my hometown in mind when considering the various opportunities nursing offers for growth and solidifying knowledge. I want to work on a surgical unit for at least 1-2 years post-graduation to enhance my skills and gain acute care experience. Acquiring a broad scope of knowledge regarding health and wellness before providing care to my community is my current focus. After working in acute care, I think directing my attention to community health promotion will bring me the most fulfillment. Haawa for contributing to my education and career goals over the years; I will always be grateful!



"Morgan's research examines the role of the immune system in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease. Morgan is a passionate advocate for increasing the opportunities for indigenous students in academia and in STEM. She hopes to pursue a career as a research professor at a Canadian university where she can continue to advocate for indigenous rights and education.

Morgan Towriss
FNHA Scholarship Recipient

Bio on page 42



Sophia Orth

Kitsumkalum Band

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science

I attend UBCO in Kelowna and I am currently in a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Psychology. My goal for the future is to be a psychiatrist. I want to help people who struggle with mental health, especially after the effects COVID-19 has had on everyone. In my life, I have experienced many stories of mental health. Within my family, friends, and myself there have been a lot of everyday struggles. When I was young my dad suffered a brain injury causing him to have emotional outbursts and anxiety. This has affected my whole family but has also led to my love for mental health and helping people. I want to be able to support others who may have experienced similar battles I have faced. Dealing with my own mental health has made me resilient and stronger in many aspects of my life. I want to be a part of the solution in creating a healthier and safer space to talk about mental health in the future.



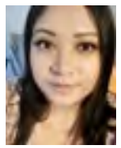
Toryn Daniels

Gitanmaax Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Kinesiology

My name is Toryn Daniels, My indigenous name is Dawemget (Ice Man). I am from the reserve of Gitanmaax, BC of the Gitxsan nation. I am currently studying kinesiology at the Vancouver UBC campus, my career goals are to become a kinesiologist and hopefully to eventually get into the physio program. I would also like to give back the most I can to my community with my education, which is something I fell in love with doing after many years of volunteering in sports as well as, volunteering at our fire department. I am grateful for this scholarship as it will help me put more of my focus on my studies and help me reach my goals.



Stevie Hunt

Kwakiutl Band Council

North Island College

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My Name is Stevie Hunt. I am from the Kwakiutl First Nation in Port Hardy BC. I am entering my fourth year of the Bachelors of Science in Nursing program. I have plans to return to my home community of Port Hardy and serve the three surrounding first nations community. I am hoping to place an emphasis on an Emergency Nursing Specialty, and thereafter aim to obtain a Masters in Nurse Practitioner.

> My career goals are to become a kinesiologist and hopefully to eventually get into the physio program. I would also like to give back the most I can to my community with my education, which is something I fell in love with doing after many years of volunteering in sports as well as, volunteering at our fire department. I am grateful for this scholarship as it will help me put more of my focus on my studies and help me reach my goals.
>
> **— Toryn Daniels**

FNHA | Scholarship – Undergraduate



Taylor Peterson

Tahltan Band Council

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Hello, my name is Taylor Peterson. I identify with the Eth'eni Family and Chiyone Clan in the Tahltan Nation. I am currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. I am in my third year of nursing school, continuing to pursue a passion I developed long ago. I enjoy taking care of others, learning about medicine and science, and travelling. I have began my specialty in Emergency and Remote/Rural Nursing by working in one of the Tahltan communities in Northern BC as an Employed Student Nurse this past summer. I plan to work in various First Nations communities after graduation, providing safe, competent, and ethical care to Indigenous people. I hope to inspire future generations of First Nations youth to pursue an education, and remind them that anything can be accomplished if you want it enough. I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to the NRT Foundation for the support throughout my endeavours. Meduh.



Victoria Alfred

'Namgis First Nation

British Columbia Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science - Nursing

I am Victoria Alfred of the Kwakwakawa'kw Nation, specifically the 'Namgis Band, and I am from Alert Bay, BC. I am beginning the final year of my Registered Nursing program. I hope to enter the Emergency Department specialty soon after graduation. I want to work this area for 3-5 years. My inspiration to enter nursing school is rooted in my experiences as a Primary Care Paramedic in rural and metro centers. My aim, once I have a firm foundation of experience, is to enroll in a Public health Master's program. My experiences thus far have borne witness to the need for preventative and proactive health care. My passion and longer-term goal will be to take the bedside nursing experience to a community-based scale.



Aleesha Jones

Boothroyd Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Master of Science - Land and Food Systems

I am a mixed-race woman; from my father I am Interior Salish and from my mother I am of mixed settler background. My mother raised me in the urban southwestern territory of the Stó:lō peoples, and is where I continue to live today. Unfortunately, like many urban Indigenous peoples, I grew up isolated from both my relations and traditional lands. Additionally, like many Indigenous peoples in Canada, I experienced food insecurity in my youth that deeply impacted my relationship with food. That insecurity is what motivated me to pursue Indigenous food systems as the central topic of my thesis research. I am currently in my third year of a Master of Science in Integrated Studies in Land and Food Systems at the University of British Columbia. In the years following the completion of my degree I aspire to make significant contributions towards the eradication of hunger in our communities.



Jeannie-Lynn Leon

Tla'amin Nation

Yorkville University

Masters of Arts - Counselling Psychology

My traditional name is Cheenah and my English name is Jeannie-Lynn Leon. I am a Indigenous mother, wife, and educator from Tla'amin Nation. My passions are rooted in supporting students in the K-12 education system. My educational background started at the University of the Fraser Valley, I earned a Bachelor of Arts-History Major as well as a Bachelor of Education. In addition, I moved toward supporting Inclusive education and earned a Post Graduate Certificate in Special Education from Queens University. I am very honoured to be on my next journey. I will be working toward a Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology from Yorkville University. I believe in the power of self discovery and identity as an avenue to build inner strengths. My career goals include supporting Indigenous youth and families with a focus on overall wellness and self-regulation through connection. I would like to take this opportunity to raise my hands the NRT Foundation and First Nations Health Authority for making this award possible. I am forever grateful for this financial support.

FNHA | Scholarship – Masters



Darienne Russell

Tl'azt'en Nation

University of Toronto

Master of Public Health - Indigenous Health

Hadih (hello)! My name is Darienne Russell, I am from Tl'azt'en Nation in Fort St James, BC and I am from the Lusilyoo (frog) clan. I am currently pursuing a Master of Public Health with a specialization in Indigenous Health from the University of Toronto. I am very passionate about bridging the gaps that exist in the western healthcare systems to better support the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples. I am honoured to be receiving the New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRTF) Education Award from the First Nation Health Authority. The support I am receiving will help me to achieve my educational and career goals. Musi Cho (thank you).



Dylan Hunt-Scott

Kwakiutl Band Council

University of Victoria

Master of Social Work

I am Kwakiutl from Fort Rupert. My mother is Kwakiutl and my Father is Taku River Tlingit from Atlin. I obtained my bachelors degree in First Nations studies from Vancouver Island University in 2018 and I am entering my second year of my Masters of Social work with an Indigenous Specialization from the University of Victoria. When I have graduated I will work to use my skills to improve Indigenous health and wellness and work towards improving Indigenous experiences in mainstream health care. I also am about to become a new father and I am excited to share and incorporate culture with our growing family.



Jenna Marand

Tsawwassen First Nation

University of Victoria

Master of Arts - Child, Youth, Family & Community Studies

I am in my first year of the Child, Youth, Family & Community Studies Masters program at the University of Victoria. It is my ongoing goal to support and enhance the lives of young people and hopefully dismantle modern structures of racism and colonization within the child welfare system.



Julian Stokes

Old Masset Village Council

University of Northern British Columbia

Master of Science - Health Sciences

I am conducting thesis research on cognitive pain management techniques. Alongside my fascination with neurological research and chronic pain management, I share a passion for public health research and improving the health status of medically underserved rural communities. My ultimate career goal is to work as a physician in smaller communities in Northern British Columbia. Later, I intend to supplement my medical career with clinical and field-based research; I would like to obtain my PhD, most likely at UNBC and focusing on public health and/or neuroscience research. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the NRT Foundation for supporting my academic journey. Not only will the financial support be of great assistance during my master's degree, but being recognized in such a way furthers my motivation to dedicate myself to my studies and research. I will put your support to excellent use as I pursue a fulfilling lifelong career in medicine and health research.



Lachanda Manuel

Tkemlups Te Secwepemc

University of British Columbia

Master of Social Work

I am incredibly honoured to have been awarded this scholarship for my 2022/2023 academic year. I am a proud member of Tk'emlups te Secwepmec in Secwepemc'uluw. In 2021 I graduated with my Bachelors of Social Work degree with your help. Today, I am blessed with the opportunity to be on my journey of completing my Masters of Social Work with a clinical focus. My goal is to provide low barrier trauma counselling services to Indigenous peoples of the southern interior. Again I want to thank FNHA as well as NRTF for all that they do for Indigenous students and communities. Organizations like yours have helped me get to where I am today and for that I am so thankful.



Melissa Watts

Squamish First Nations

University of British Columbia

Master of Social Work

My name is Melissa Watts and tuupaatiik-wamaka, which means teacher, challenge and activities. I wish to gain more counselling experience to be better equipped to one day open up my own counselling practice by and for Indigenous folks in person and virtually. I believe in strength based, empowerment, and person centred therapy. I am very grateful to be receiving a scholarship from NRTF as it comes at a time when my family and I are in need. My son has moved back in the carry on with his education and this financial support will help us both during our time of need. Huy chexw a!
Klecko klecko!



Lyric Atchison

Squamish First Nations

University of British Columbia

Master of Arts - Gender, Race , Sexuality and Social Justice

My name is Lyric Atchison and I am a member of the Squamish Nation from North Vancouver, BC. I recently completed my undergrad degree in Kinesiology at UBC and will be returning to UBC in the fall to start graduate school doing my MA in gender, race , sexuality and social justice. Throughout my time at UBC I have played varsity and national level rugby, the last 3 years I have undergone 2 surgeries and extensive rehab and am excited to continue playing rugby while completing my MA!



Morgan Towriss

Lax-kw'alaams Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Master of Science - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Morgan's research examines the role of the immune system in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease. Morgan is a passionate advocate for increasing the opportunities for indigenous students in academia and in STEM. She hopes to pursue a career as a research professor at a Canadian university where she can continue to advocate for indigenous rights and education. "I would like to sincerely thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation and First Nations Health Authority for supporting my educational journey. I am so grateful to be able to continue to pursue my goals with less financial burden as a result of this award. T'oyaxsut nüüsm. Thank you!"
Klecko klecko!

FNHA | Scholarship – Masters



Kirstie West

Saik'uz First Nation

Simon Fraser University

Master of Arts - Counselling Psychology

Hadih, my name is Kirstie West. My ancestry descends from the Dakelh and Sekani nations, and I am a proud member of Saik'uz First Nation in the northern interior of British Columbia (BC). I am currently in my third year in the Counselling Psychology Master's program at Simon Fraser University. I would like to use my education to provide culturally appropriate solutions to family healing within First Nations communities in the northern region of British Columbia. I am interested in using an integrated approach using Person Centred Therapy, Interpersonal Therapy and Indigenous ways of knowing. I would like to work with Indigenous families in strengthening the traditional kinship system for collective healing. Cultural competency within counseling is an important aspect in understanding the historical context and the social determinants of health that negatively impact Indigenous families and communities. Developing a deeper understanding of the complexities of Intergenerational trauma will allow me to have the competency to educate others through culturally specific research to strengthen familial structures within First Nations communities.



Mark Connelly

Seabird Island Band

University of Northern British Columbia

Master of Social Work

I myself have grown up with a mother who attended residential school and personally experienced the stain of those traumas, and the broken family structure that colonization has left. I grew up in Prince George, BC starting my career in the service industry, which I did very successfully for 20 years until I decided to return to university in 2017. My professional goal is to obtain my Master of Social Work and continue my work in the North with a trauma-informed lens to support those in community that have mental health concerns. I have walked the same path as many of my clients and I am learning that my personal experiences can be utilized to help others. I have been putting my heart and soul into my educational journey because I have learned that the better I take care of my current mental health, which school helps with, set myself and my loved ones up for success. I need to be goal-oriented on my educational journey while supporting my family.

FNHA | Scholarship – Masters



Natasha Billy

Xaxli’p

University of Victoria

Master of Social Work

Ḱalhwá7alap nsnekẃ núḱwa7 Natasha Billy nskwátsitsa Xaxli’pmeckan. St’át’imc múta7 Secwepemc: Hello my friends, my name is Natasha Billy. I am from Xaxli’p and I am from the St’át’imc and Secwepemc Nations. I am the mother of 3 and grandmother to 2 grandsons, one whom walks with our ancestors. I have always had a passion to work in the Social work field and have worked as a front line worker for the past 12 years. I am committed to integrating culture into my life and my practice, as a mother and grandmother this is important to me. I began this journey to further my education because I see a need for healing within our nations. We need more Indigenous healers and I would like to pursue a career to become a land-based trauma informed counsellor to help our people work towards healing from intergenerational trauma from colonial practices such as residential school. I am grateful to be chosen for this scholarship and it will help to reach my goals to be of service to my community. Kukwstsemc-Thank You



Pamela Ross

Tl’etinqox Government

University of Victoria

Master of Social Work

I am from the Tsilhqot’in Nation and a registered social worker with the British Columbia College of Social Workers. I am pursuing a Master of Social Work Degree at the University of Victoria. My career goal is to obtain registration as a registered clinical social worker to provide programs and services to Indigenous communities.



Whitney Evans

Tkemlups Te Secwepemc

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Master of Social Work

I am a member of Secwépemc First Nation, and my Indigenous name is Rayen. I am enrolled in my first year of the Master of Social Work program at UBCO. I am currently involved in a critical review of the Social Work curriculum at UBCO from an Indigenous lens. I am also a Graduate Research assistant. I began University as a mature student with four children while working part-time. Without scholarships and bursaries, I would be unable to pursue my educational goals. I plan to utilize my master’s degree to contribute to the healing of my people. Upon graduation, I aim to open a practice rooted in medicine wheel teachings aligned with Indigenous culture. My focus will always be holistic healing.

> “We need more Indigenous healers and I would like to pursue a career to become a land-based trauma informed counsellor to help our people work towards healing from intergenerational trauma from colonial practices such as residential school. I am grateful to be chosen for this scholarship and it will help to reach my goals to be of service to my community. Kukwstsemc-Thank You
>
> **— Natasha Billy**

FNHA | Scholarship – Doctorate



Amy Beevor-Potts

Sts’ailes Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Medicine

My name is Amy Beevor-Potts and I am Coast Salish from the Sts’ailes First Nation. I was born and raised in Salmon Arm, BC, where I graduated from Salmon Arm Secondary School in 2016. I completed three years of study in biomedical sciences at the University of Calgary before being admitted to the medical doctorate program at the University of British Columbia, where I am currently a fourth year medical student. After graduating I hope to one day work as an ObGyn and work with Indigenous women to support them through medically complicated pregnancies in a safe way.



Amy Spetter

Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Medicine

My Name is Amy Spetter, I am of Indigenous and Northern European descent, my Father is Nuučaaʔuɬ from Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, and my Mother is a settler of Norwegian descent. I was born and raised in Victoria BC, on the beautiful ancestral and unceded land of the lək̓ʷəŋən speaking people. I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria in Chemistry for the Medical Sciences. After graduation, I worked with ISPARC (Indigenous Sport Physical Activity and Recreation Council) along with Archipel Research and Consulting, before starting Medical school in August 2022.



Brooke Mounsey

Simpcw First Nation

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Medicine

Weyt-kp xwexwéytep! Brooke ren sk-wekwst ell te Simpcw re sť 7é7kwen. Ne Penkúpe re múmtwen. Hello! My name is Brooke and I'm a Simpcw band member living in Vancouver. I'm a third year medical student with interests in pursuing Indigenous health and public health in the future!



Caleb Lawlor

Lower Similkameen Indian Band

Northern Ontario School of Medicine University

Doctor of Medicine

My name is Caleb Lawlor. I am a second year medical student 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 am interested in becoming involved with a non-government organizations in the future. 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 want extend my sincerest, "limləmt" (thank you), to the New Relationship Trust Foundation and the First Nations Health Authority for your generous support.



Darryl Gray

Lax Kw'alaams Band

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy - Social Work

My Name is Darryl Gray. My matriarchal bloodline is Ts'msyen from Lax Kw'alaams, British Columbia, and I belong to Waap Liyaa'mlaxha, a Gisbutwada (Blackfish) House in the Gitaxangiik Tribe. My patrilineal bloodline is Oglala, Sioux, from Pine Ridge, South Dakota. In the 2022-23 academic year, I am going to be entering into my third year of the University of British Columbia, PhD in Social Work Program. I eventually want to aspire into a career in an academic post-secondary setting.



Dylan Whitney

Xaxli'p

University of Alberta

Doctor of Medicine

I am a medical student studying at the University of Alberta and originally from Vancouver, BC. I am a proud member of the Xaxli'p first nation. My career goals involve aspirations towards medical surgery and optimization through technology. This field draws me in based on the intellectual stimulation and health-impacts for each patient involved. Thank you for this support as I embark on this long period of training. I am truly blessed to be one of the lucky few to be recognized by this program

FNHA | Scholarship – Doctorate



Elliott Vissia

Hupacasath First Nation

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Dental Medicine

Hello there, my name is Elliott Vissia and I'm a member of Hupacasath First Nation. I'm currently enrolled in my third year of dental school at UBC after making the switch from Mechanical Engineering. Upon graduation I intend on going back to my community and opening up a dental practice where I can serve members of my nation, as well as the surrounding area with a mobile dental clinic. I appreciate the award, and how it will help alleviate financial stress. Thank you!



Jorden Hendry

Lax-kw'alaams Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy - Population and Public Health

Jorden is Tsimshian and a member of the Lax Kw'alaams band from her mother's side. She was born and raised on Tsimshian territory, in the town of Terrace, BC. She recently completed a Master of Public Health from the University of British Columbia and will be continuing her education by completing a PhD in Indigenous Public Health. Jorden's community leadership, teaching, mentorship and advisory work is centered around confronting the cultural and systemic transformations that need to occur in order to address health inequities. Her doctoral work will focus on young Indigenous people who use substances and experience HIV-risk, and understanding the importance of connecting them to land-based programming.



Jilleun Tenning

Stz'uminus First Nation

University of Victoria

Doctor of Philosophy - Social Dimensions of health

Jilleun Tenning is an Indigenous advocate and PhD student in the Social Dimensions of Health program at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. Her research interests include critical disability studies, Indigenous rights, reclamation, and sovereignty, and arts-based research methodologies. She has a strong commitment to harm reduction and has spent many years working with street involved youth. She serves 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.



Priscilla Lawson-Pires

Heiltsuk Nation

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Medicine

I was born and raised in Vancouver and I am entering my second year of the University of British Columbia Medical Program. 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 seeking primary care. 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 NRTF and First Nations Health Authority!

FNHA | Scholarship – Doctorate



Kalezafar Lawrence
Penelakut Indian Band
Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College
Doctor of Chiropractic Degree

Hi, my name is Kalezafar Lawrence and I am from the Penelakut Tribe. I am currently enrolled in my first of the four year Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree program at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto, Ontario. I was born and live on the unceded territory of the Okanagan (Sylix) peoples in BC. This new education adventure with CMCC will allow me not only to expand my knowledge but also allow me the opportunity to blend my passion of sports, education and physical health. As a first year student I know I have lots yet to learn in regards to chiropractic care, but I feel that Chiropractic Care has many connections with traditional Indigenous medicine. Approaching a person's well-being in terms of their entire body rather than just the area where symptoms manifest is something our elders have taught for many generations. I have read "every part of the body must work together effectively for the body to function properly", this saying resonates with me. I want to be part of a new world where medicine and traditions collaborate, where we all work together for life long benefits.



Ryan Tomm
Seton Lake Band
University of British Columbia
Doctor of Philosophy - Psychology
(Behavioural Neuroscience)

My name is Ryan Tomm and I am from the Seton Lake Band (Tsal'alh). I'm currently working on my PhD in Behavioural Neuroscience at the University of British Columbia. My current research looks to improve our understanding of the neurobiological underpinnings of different subtypes of depression and anxiety disorders – including their comorbidities. My career goal is to develop a strong research background so I can help inform mental health policy decisions within our communities.



Shandel Kaiser
Prophet River First Nation
Capella University
Doctor of Philosophy - Psychology

Shanny is a mother of three and Dane-Zaa woman, born and raised on the traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council. She holds a bachelor's and master's degree in psychology, and is currently completing her PhD in psychology. Shanny is passionate about mental health and believes that everyone should have the opportunity to live mentally well lives. She believes this is best accomplished when we take a holistic, trauma-informed, and developmental view. As a result, Shanny has focused on parent-infant mental health and supporting parents in laying a healthy foundation from the start. She hopes her advanced education will allow her to contribute, and advance, the field of developmental psychology and parent-infant mental making it more accessible to all families.



OUR PARTNERS | ANDREA REIMER



Andrea Reimer
SCHOLARSHIP

On the eve of her 50th birthday Andrea Reimer started this scholarship. Andrea Reimer is well-known as a former Vancouver City Councillor but what most people don't know is that Andrea did not have the opportunity to get a degree from a post-secondary. Despite this at the age of 47, she was awarded a Loeb Fellowship from Harvard's Graduate School of Design in recognition of her world-leading efforts in local government policy-making.

Always passionate about education, her year at Harvard was a catalyst for establishing this scholarship. There are so many voices that have gone unheard in building Canada's cities simply because they haven't had the opportunity or the encouragement, and nowhere is this more true than for urban Indigenous people. In whatever small way, Andrea hopes this scholarship provides that call to action for an Indigenous voice we need at the urban policy-making table.



Arlene Antrim
Ulkatcho Indian Band
University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Arlene Antrim, I'm Dakelh from the Ulkatcho First Nations community, and I major in Geography. My short-term focus is on Environment and Sustainability and, in due course, moving forward on broadening my studies in a master's program where I can conduct a more general subdiscipline in Indigenous Geographies. Eventually, I'd like to learn more on this topic and hold the credibility to highlight Indigenous conceptualizations of their territories and meanings of place, land use and governance.





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



Nadiya Weaver

Lake Babine Nation

College of New Caledonia

Welding

My name is Nadiya Weaver. I am from the Lake Babine Nation/Band. I am currently residing in Prince George B.C. enrolled at CNC. Attending college was something I wasn't sure I would ever do but I am so happy that I am currently enrolled into a trade in the welding foundations program. I will work hard towards obtaining my red seal certification to be a certified red seal welder. I enjoy learning new things and to go into a trade will give me a lot of challenges that I look forward to overcoming and work through. I am so grateful for the supports in place that help me to achieve my goals and become a successful member to society. Thank you so much to the NRT Foundation and to Canfor for your generous contribution! This support really makes a positive difference and is a big help. I truly appreciate it. Sincerely, Nadiya Weaver.



Michelle Joseph-Shaw

Witset First Nation

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Business Administration

My Name is Michelle Joseph-Shaw, I am from Witset First Nation. Currently, I'm completing a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Human Resource Management. Following the completion of my undergraduate studies, I intend to pursue a master's degree. As an ambitious business student, I aspire to build a brighter future and become an integral part of the work-force. One day, I hope that my educational accomplishments will inspire future generations to pursue higher education. I would like to thank New Relationship Trust Foundation for the support received as it allows many indigenous students like me to achieve our academic goals.

> "Attending college was something I wasn't sure I would ever do but I am so happy that I am currently enrolled into a trade in the welding foundations program. I will work hard towards obtaining my red seal certification to be a certified red seal welder. I enjoy learning new things and to go into a trade will give me a lot of challenges that I look forward to overcoming and work through. I am so grateful for the supports in place that help me to achieve my goals and become a successful member to society.
>
> **— Nadiya Weaver**



Rachelle Foubert

Saik'uz First Nation

University of Northern British Columbia

Bachelor of Science -

Wildlife and Fisheries

My name is Rachelle Foubert. I was born and raised in Mackenzie, British Columbia, but traditionally, my family comes from Saik'uz First Nation. I'm currently in my 3rd years of the BSc - Wildlife and Fisheries program. My career goals are to work as a Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) in British Columbia alongside First Nations communities. I want to work in the Natural Resource Management field with preference to wildlife management, and to utilize the skills and knowledge learned throughout my education as an Indigenous professional.



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.



Christopher Paul

Haisla Nation

Coast Mountain College

4th Class Power Engineering

My name is Christopher P, I am from Kitamaat Village on the North Coast of BC. I was born and raised. I spent a lot of time living in the DTES & Surrey, not living the healthiest life but I got my life back on track and there are so many opportunities and doors opening. I am so grateful for where I am at today and this bursary is a gift of recovery and hard work.



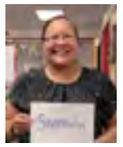
Daylan Brown

Ts'il Kaz Koh

Okanagan College

Carpentry & Joiner Foundation

Upon completion of my Grade Twelve Diploma, I plan to attend the Okanagan College enrolled in the Carpentry & Joiner Foundation Program. Classes I am currently enrolled in include comparative cultures, principles of hockey, career-life connections, career life education, math, science and English where I have maintained a position on the honor roll. I look forward to utilizing all knowledge gained from these courses in my future learning journey at the Kelowna campus of the Okanagan College. In receiving designated supports during the bursary application process, I know these funds will be greatly appreciated and assist in many ways as I strive to attain my career goal of becoming a red seal carpenter by enabling me to focus on my education as I will be living away from home for the first time. My focus on maintaining honor roll status will be a work ethic I am sure to transfer over to my studies while away at college.



Genevieve Martin

Nak'azdli Whut'en Band

College of New Caledonia

Accounting and Finance Diploma

My name is Genevieve Martin. I am from Nak'azdli Whut'en. The reason why I chose to study the Accounting and Finance diploma program is because of the lack of skilled workers in the northern region of my area. Many nations are utilizing very expensive accounting firms for simple work. I hope to help some first nations in the area with their accounting program.

> "I know these funds will be greatly appreciated and assist in many ways as I strive to attain my career goal of becoming a red seal carpenter by enabling me to focus on my education as I will be living away from home for the first time.
>
> **— Daylan Brown**



Nevaeh Montgomery

Saulteau First Nation

Lakeland College

Agriculture Business

Tansi, my name is Nevaeh Montgomery, and I am grateful to be a recipient of a New Relationship Trust bursary. I am from Saulteaux First Nations in Northeastern BC and am studying Agribusiness in Vermilion AB. I am in my last semester of a 2-year program and look forward to coming home to work in and support my community by using my skills obtained in college. There is a need for food security in my community.



Tam Prince

Saik'uz First Nation

College of New Caledonia
Social Service Worker UT

My name is Tam Prince, I am grouse clan from Saikuz first Nation band. I have spent most of my life in care of the ministry and that has pushed me towards my studies of social services. I hope to one day make changes in policies surrounding indigenous youth in care. I am very lucky to have been chosen by the NRT foundation. Thank you for the support!



Desiree Louis

Stellat'en First Nation

University of British Colombia
Bachelor of Arts

Desiree Hana is from the Luksilyoo territory and member of Stellaten First Nation. Her given name is, Das-tea (which means Too Expensive, affectionally called by the matriarchs in the community.) Her clan crest is the Little Man. The Little People are ancestrally known as tricksters and half higher being. Her ancestry extends to the mountains of Northern Alberta, on her father's side, which is Cree Metís. Her career and academic life have been filled with delegation roles, circle work with indigenous leadership across turtle island, and special events management. Her work now is inclusive of teaching workshops in traditional ecological knowledge, economic development for nations, and indigenous sexualities research.



Davena Isaac

Nak'azdli Whut'en Band

Vancouver Community College
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

My name is Davena Isaac. I'm from the Nak'azdli First Nation Band and part of the frog clan. I am currently finishing my bachelor's in science of nursing. I chose the career of being a Nurse to be able to be able to support and care for people with health care needs and services. I am passionate towards helping people, advocating and promoting safe and thorough care to them. In addition, the health care industry promotes cultural knowledge, safety and care and eventually I want to work towards being an educator in the field because the is extreme diversity in health care settings, and I want all people to feel cared for and supported.



Dylan O'Brien

Saulteau First Nation

University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Applied Science

My name is Dylan O'Brien, and I am from Saulteau First Nations. I am an engineering student attending UBCO in Kelowna. In 2013 I became a Journeyman Electrician and worked for a few years before returning to school for an engineering degree. My previous work experience has helped me navigate my degree and connect the theory taught in class to practical applications. My aim is to pursue a more technical role in industry while maintaining a hands-on approach where I can continue to apply my trade skills.

Coastal GasLink | Bursary/Scholarship



Emma Stewart

Haisla Nation

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Science

My name is Emma Stewart, and I am from Gitwinksihlkw and the Haisla Nation. I am currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Science Program at UBC, where I will major in Biology. Once I reach that goal, I would like to move onto the Bachelor of Education Program, so that I may return to my hometown to become a Secondary Science Teacher.

> My end goal with studies is to eventually go to medical school and become a neurologist, my dream is to help people and I'm extremely grateful for NFT being able to help me with that goal!!
>
> **— Gabrielle Knott**



Khloe Lambert

Witset First Nation

University of Northern British Columbia
Northern Baccalaureate Nursing

My name is Khloe Lambert, and I was born and raised in Prince George, BC, where I currently attend UNBC. I'm currently in my 2nd year of the biomedical program, and I tutor for first year chemistry at the university here. I have been becoming more involved in my community with volunteering opportunities so that I can gain the leadership and teamwork skills that I need to strive in the healthcare field. After I graduate from this program, I plan to continue my studies in the school of nursing here at UNBC. I knew I always wanted to work in the healthcare field, and I am beyond grateful that I can work towards this goal.



Gabrielle Knott

Saulteau First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

My name is Gabrielle Knott, I graduated with my Dogwood in 2022 and I am currently studying at SFU with the goal of graduating with a degree in Behavioural Neuroscience. I'm originally from Chetwynd BC and came to the Lower Mainland in 2018. My end goal with studies is to eventually go to medical school and become a neurologist, my dream is to help people and I'm extremely grateful for NRTF being able to help me with that goal!!



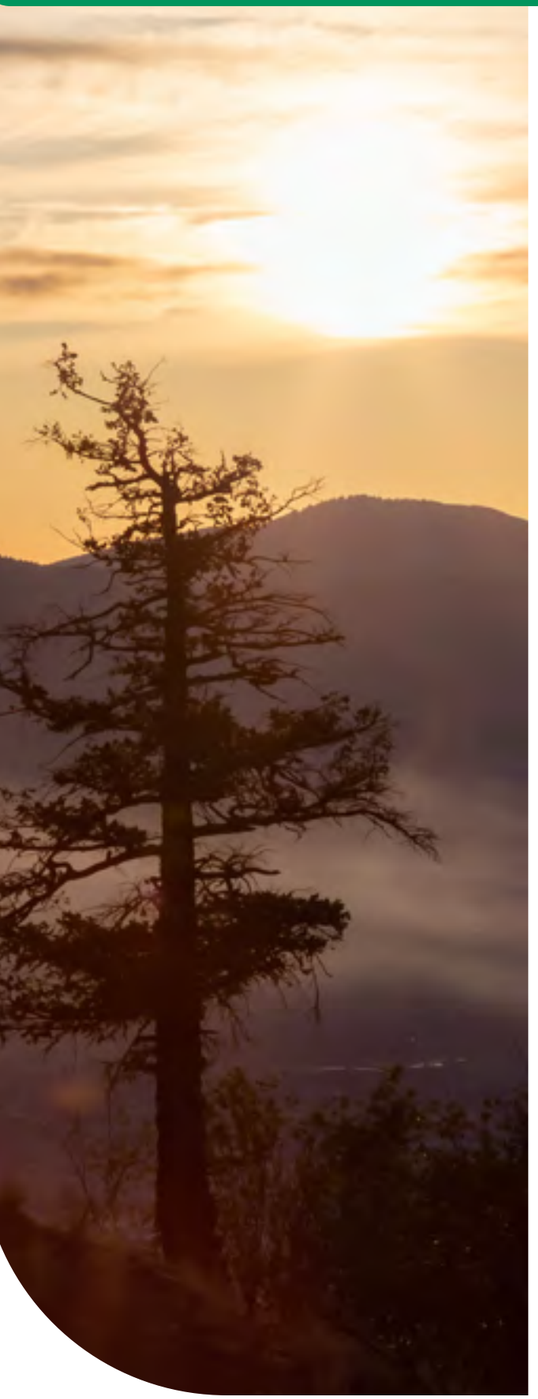
Myah Schaefer

Nadleh Whut'en Band

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Myah Schaefer, I am currently in my first year at Simon Fraser University. I am hoping to complete my bachelor of education, so I can become a teacher in the future. I am looking forward to continuing my education and eventually working with and supporting the younger generations. I'm so happy to have received this opportunity and am excited to see where my future will lead.

OUR PARTNERS | COUNCIL OF FOREST INDUSTRIES



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.

Council of Forest Industries | Bursary/Scholarship



Austin Percival

Gitlaxtaamiks

Coast Mountain College

Carpentry Level 1

Hello, I'm Austin Percival. I come from the Nisga'a village of Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC, and I currently reside in the Lower Mainland. Having spent the last five years in new construction, I have had the privilege of experiencing many aspects of building towers from the ground up, to having final inspections and getting homeowners moved in. Starting this career in carpentry will aid me in my goal to one day be a journeyman carpenter, so I can continue building homes at some capacity as either a general contractor, or even find myself in a superintendent roll someday.



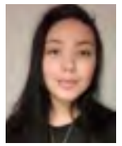
Trinity Mack

Nuxalk Nation

College of the Rockies

Environmental Studies

Hello, my name is Trinity Mack. I am an Environmental Studies Student at The College of the Rockies in the East Kootenay's. I am from the Bella Coola Valley in Central Coast British Columbia on the unseeded territory of the Nuxalkmc peoples. I am a first-generation university student, so it was hard for me to leave my home and community. I want to become an inspiration for all indigenous first-generation students to find inspiration in education.



Teresa Russ

Skidegate Band Council

Vancouver Island University

Forest Resource Technology

My name is Teresa Russ, my Haida name is Xuuya k'aadjuu giis. I was born and raised in Skidegate on Haida Gwaii. For my entire working life, I have been involved in natural resources through the Gwaii Haanas Watchmen program as a watchman at ancient Haida village sites and the Heritage and Natural Resource department of the Council of the Haida Nation as a stewardship technician.
My time as a stewardship tech has been spent mostly working on stream and riparian health monitoring and species at risk surveying. My goal with my education is to become a registered professional forester and return home back to my community to continue to explore and work on the land with a better understanding of what's around me so i can help to protect more of the pristine environments i have been fortunate enough to see. The work I have done and the education I have obtained so far would not be possible without the support and encouragement from my community back home.



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.



Matthew Comin
Ashcroft Indian Band
Lakeland College
Heavy Equipment Technician

I'm Matthew from Ashcroft, BC. I'm currently in my final year of studying heavy equipment technology. My goal is to continually gain experience in the field and build a lifelong career doing what I love.





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.



Darius Commodore

Soowahlie Indian Band

University of Fraser Valley
Qualifying Studies

My name is Darius Commodore, my traditional name translates to Black Standing Bear. I am from Soowahlie and Lummi First Nation. I always struggled in school as a child and as a youth as I moved around from home to home a lot during these years. I also struggle with learning disabilities and with my mental health. A few years ago, I enrolled in classes at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) at a grade nine level. I was then somehow able to obtain my Adult Dogwood Diploma, while completing my pre-requisites for my Business Administration Diploma. I was able to complete this within one and a half years, while managing to maintain a GPA of 4.10. I am still at UFV but am now completing the university classes for the Business Administration Diploma. My career goal is to create several businesses on my family land in my community of Soowahlie First Nation. My vision is to create several jobs for my family and community to help my family and community members to become more self-sufficient and to help renew hope and self-confidence within my community. I would eventually like to return to UFV to finish my Business Degree.



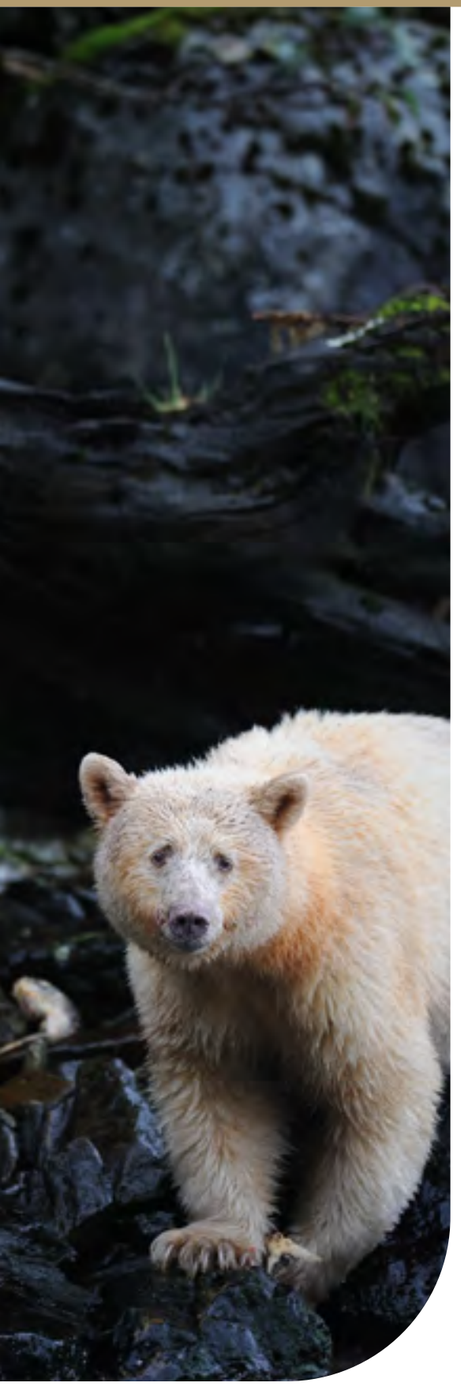
Todd Nelson

Spuzzum First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Teacher Education (Professional Development Program)

Heńłe?, Todd Nelson he nskwest. Tuł Spuzzum First Nation kn. I'm currently attending SFU PDP in the Indigenous Perspectives Teacher Education Module to become a teacher that focuses on Indigenizing and decolonizing the classroom. I'd like to spend my life in the service of our Indigenous communities and be a positive role model for our next generations. In the future, I aspire to become involved in Indigenous healthcare and positively impact our People's health outcomes. I would like to raise my hands to NRTF, FNHA, and the Combes Family for their generosity. This award will allow me to focus harder on my studies, and I owe my future successes to you all. Kwukwscémxw

> "My career goal is to create several businesses on my family land in my community of Soowahlie First Nation. My vision is to create several jobs for my family and community to help my family and community members to become more self-sufficient and to help renew hope and self-confidence within my community.
>
> **— Darius Commodore**



PHT

PEACE HILLS TRUST™

Peace Hills Trust is Canada's largest and oldest First Nations owned federally regulated financial institution, and is also Canada's only independent Trust Company. Driven by a vision to satisfy the unique financial needs of the 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.



Jessica Hamilton

Hupacasath First Nation

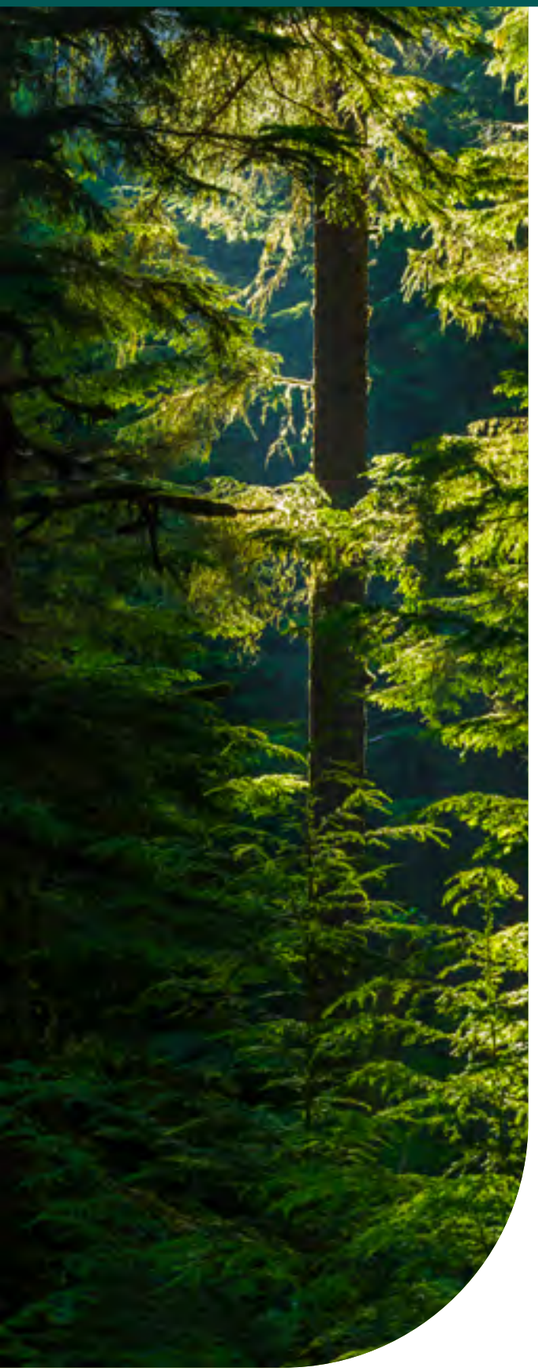
Native Education College

Office Administration & Employment Training Program

My name is Jessica Hamilton, I am Nuu-Chah-Nulth from the Hupacasath First Nation in Port Alberni through my father's side and Nisga'a through my mother. I moved away from Port Alberni after I graduated high school in 2014 not sure of what I wanted to pursue. I started working at a first nations non-profit organization when the COVID-19 pandemic had started, and it was there that I learned what I wanted to do, and that was taking care of my urban local community. I would like to finish the Office Administration Program at N.E.C and investigate Business Administration afterwards.



OUR PARTNERS | INDIGENOUS LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP



Indigenous Leaders
SCHOLARSHIP

Indigenous Leaders Scholarship is an award which is made possible through the donation of a 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.



Rachel Stephens

Laxgalt'sap

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

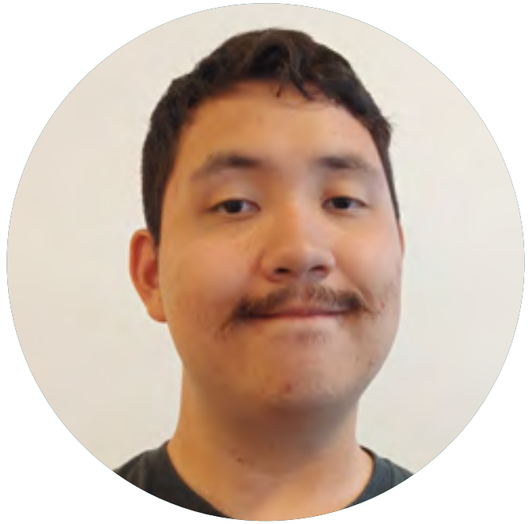
I am currently pursuing my Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. This program will lead me into the profession of Registered Nursing here in BC. Science has always been a passion of mine. For me what science truly represents is hope and optimism that I can truly change the world in a positive way and create a lasting impact on those who I can help. Nursing will allow me to pursue my passion while challenging me every day. Most importantly, becoming an RN gives me the privilege to help those communities who need it most, specifically Indigenous communities where I truly feel I can create positive change within the healthcare system. I hope to continue my education after this and become a Nurse Practitioner. The nursing program at BCIT has continued to challenge me and push me to my limits. I am so thankful to organizations like the NRTF for relieving some of my financial stress and allowing me to succeed in this program. The opportunity the NRTF gives students like me truly creates a positive impact on our education, and I will forever be grateful.



OUR PARTNERS | INDIGENOUS LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP



Technical Safety BC is an independent, self-funded organization that oversees the safe installation and operation of technical systems and equipment. We are a leader in technical expertise and safety education, with a vision of Safe technical systems. Everywhere. In addition to issuing permits, licenses and certificates, we work with industry to reduce safety risks through assessment, education and outreach, enforcement, and research. We strive to share knowledge and create partnerships across the province and with Indigenous Nations to build a robust safety system that serves all British Columbian's.



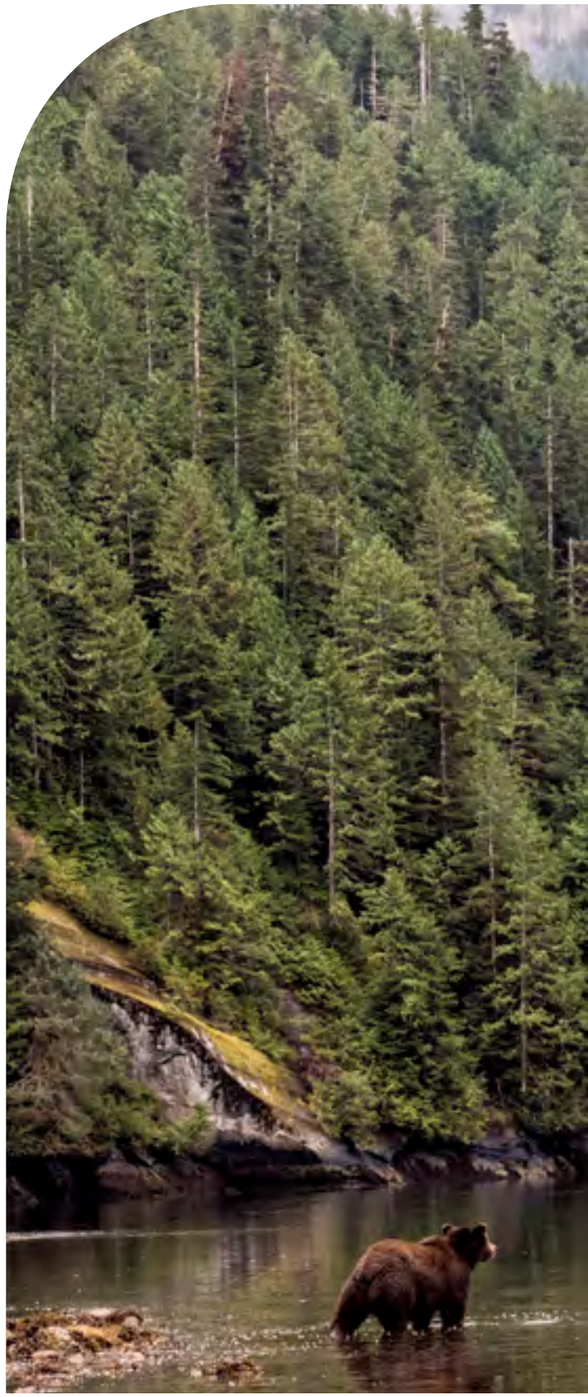
Edric Antoine

Bonaparte First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science

My name is Edric Antoine, and I'm currently a third-year student at the University of British Columbia where I study computer science. I'm working towards my bachelor's degree and am also in the co-op program on an 8-month internship. Prior to university, I participated in and graduated from the International Baccalaureate program, which provided me with numerous skills that helped me succeed as a student at UBC. After obtaining my bachelor's degree, I plan to continue study at UBC to potentially gain a master's degree, during which time I wish to refine and improve my skills through internships or entry-level positions at various companies. My personal goal is to make a positive difference in my community through software development, and I wish to eventually find a career working with others who reflect the same values. In my spare time, I enjoy programming as a hobby as well as participating in hackathons. Occasionally, I also enjoy playing the piano.





Craig's matriarchal bloodline is Ts'msyen from the Gitga'at (Hartley Bay) First Nation. He belongs to the Gisbutwada (Killerwhale) house Wah Moodm. He grew up in Prince Rupert, BC and graduated from Charles Hays Secondary School this spring. This fall, he is pursuing the Baking and Pastry Arts Management Diploma at the University of Vancouver Island.

Craig Eshom
NRT Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 74

OUR PARTNERS | NRT

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

NRT invests in BC First Nations by supporting them in five key capacity development areas: Governance capacity, Education, Language, 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



Alanah Robertson

Penticton Indian Band

Douglas College
International and
Intercultural Relations

My name is Alanah, I am Sylix'w from the Okanagan Nation in British Columbia. I am in my second year of International and Intercultural relations at Douglas College. I plan on transferring to a university to receive a bachelors degree. I am also interested in pursuing a masters degree in International relations.



Allison Conibear

Klahoose First Nation

Pacific Design Academy
Graphic Media Design

Allison Conibear comes from ƛohos, ɬaʔəmen, and Le'eyqsun Nations. She grew up and resides on lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ territory. She is an Indigenous Youth Mentorship Alumni and has continued working with the provincial government as a Communications Coordinator. Allison currently attends Pacific Design Academy, in their Graphic Design program. She is passionate about art, writing, traveling, and Indigenous languages. In the future, she hopes to work as a freelance artist and return to the University of Victoria to complete her degree in Indigenous Studies.

> My educational goal is to continue on to the four year language degree in hopes of sharing my knowledge and revitalization of the language with Nation members, namely our children and youth.
>
> **— Andrew Dexel**



Andrea Shintah

Lower Nicola Indian Band

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Nɬeʔkepmx Language Fluency Diploma

I am a Nle'kepmux woman, a mother, wife, daughter, a niece and a friendly friend. I feel my purpose is to share. Share my kindness, love, compassion and any knowledge worth while sharing. to do this in a way that is unconditional, holding no judgments, but a woman who sees the light in another and not afraid to speak up.



Andrew Dexel

Nooaitch Indian Band

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Nɬeʔkepmx Language Fluency Diploma

My name is Andrew Dexel; I am Nlaka'pamux from Nooaitch First Nation, BC 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 Nɬeʔkepmx language. My educational goal is to continue on to the four year language degree in hopes of sharing my knowledge and revitalization of the language with Nation members, namely our children and youth. Thank you NRT for the contribution toward my educational goals, I am grateful for the continued support and encouragement.
kʷukʷscémxʷ

NRT | Bursary



Austin MacArthur

Hagwilget Village Council

Okanagan College
Automotive Service Technician

My name is Austin MacArthur and I am from Kamloops, British Columbia. I currently live in Kelowna, British Columbia while attending school. My First Nation community is Hagwilget Village. My career goal is to eventually become a red seal certified automotive service technician with electric vehicle certification as well. I will achieve my goal by getting my experience working hours and returning to school to complete every level of the automotive service technician career until I can take my red seal exam. Once I am certified, I will take the course at Okanagan college to become EV certified as well.

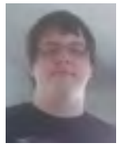


Avangylene Billyboy

Tl'etinqox Government

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Office Administration

My name is Avangylene Rain Billyboy, I am from the Tsilhqot'in area and I will be turning 23 this March. I have a hard time identifying who I am as a person so I am more or less just exploring different career routes but one that does stick with me is being a student assistant here at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. This college has been rebuilding my point of view on how important education is and how it can help you in life. I have so much to learn considering how improving ourselves is a never ending job but I do want to be more present and aware of the responsibilities that I have in my life which includes improving the work skills that I have acquired through post-secondary.



Braeden Robbins

Skidegate Band Council

North Island College
Culinary Business Operations

My name is Braeden Robbins, I will be attending North Island College this fall, taking Culinary Arts, I plan on opening my own business when I am done school. I am originally from Haida Gwaii.

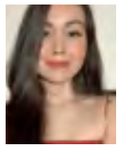


Brian Lucas

Ahousaht First Nation

Vancouver Island University
Automotive Service Technician

My name is Brian Lucas Jr. I come from the Ahousaht First Nation. I have grew up in the Hesquiaht and Ahousaht territories and moved to further my education. I have found a passion in working on cars. So therefore decided to go to VIU for my first year in the Automotive Technician program, and from there i would love to further my education in this field.



Brittany Larsen

Tseshaht First Nation

Victoria Academy of Dramatic Arts
Acting for Film and TV Diploma

I'm a member of the Tseshat First Nation. I've wanted to follow an artistic path for as long as I can remember. I love to act and perform and am extremely grateful for the chance to study and grow. Getting this award from the NRTF feels like a weight off my shoulders and I'll definitely use this opportunity to work hard and pursue the acting career I've always wanted.



Cameron Wilson

Kwakiutl Band Council

Camosun College
Mechanical Engineering Technology Access, Certificate

My name is Cameron Wilson and I was raised in Fort Rupert (Tsakis) and Fort St. John. I graduated from North Peace Secondary School. I was a parts-person previously, and this gave me a deeper interest in mechanical machines and parts. I am currently in my first semester of the Mechanical Engineering Access Program at Camosun College in British Columbia. I plan to finish this certificate, continue onto the Advanced Diploma and finish with a Degree in Mechanical Engineering after. I am hoping to be close to my culture and family on Vancouver Island and share my knowledge and help others grow. After school I plan to open up my own business.



Colin Auckland

Metlakatla Band

Electrical Joint Training Committee
Construction Electrician
Common Core Level 2

I'm Colin. I'm Tsimshian and Saulteaux. I'm from the Metlakatla band. I was born and raised in Vancouver. My career goal is to become a red seal electrician. I want to own my own electrical residential company employing first nations people. I very glad to receiving this award. I never thought I would be going to school for a career but I'm doing it. It's hard but as long as I stay focused, work hard, and don't give up I can do it and so can everybody else.

> I never thought I would be going to school for a career but I'm doing it. It's hard but as long as I stay focused, work hard, and don't give up I can do it and so can everybody else.
>
> **— Colin Auckland**

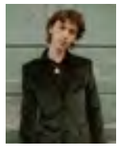


Cassidy Johnson

Gitsegukla Indian Band

College of New Caledonia
Professional Cook

My name is Cassidy Johnson and I am from the Hazelton area in British Columbia and my career goal is becoming a chef in the foods industry. I recently had became interested in cooking food especially some food from my culture



Craig Eshom

Gitga'at Nation

Vancouver Island University
Baking and Pastry Arts Management

Craig's matriarchal bloodline is Ts'msyen from the Gitga'at (Hartley Bay) First Nation. He belongs to the Gisbutwada (Killer whale) house Wah Moodm. He grew up in Prince Rupert, BC and graduated from Charles Hays Secondary School this spring. This fall, he is pursuing the Baking and Pastry Arts Management Diploma at the University of Vancouver Island.

NRT | Bursary



Cheyenne McDonald

Laxgalt'sap

Thompson Rivers University
Human Service Diploma

My name is Cheyanne McDonald, I am Laxgibu'u (wolf) clan from the house of Nagwa'un (long arms) in Laxgaltsap (Greenville) I am a mother to two young children, plus my step son and two foster daughters, so five kids in total. Im in my second year of my human services diploma program. I plan to get a counselling diploma after I complete this program. I want to return to my home, close to the Nass Valley so I can work as an Indigenous Counsellor and facilitate groups in treatment centres about Indigenous ways of healing, being and doing.



Colette Child

Kwakiutl Band Council

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language Proficiency Diploma

My name is Anit'sała, I am a mixed blood descendant of the Kwagu'ɬ Nation, French-Canadian, Scot, and also have connections to the Nuu-chah-nulth and Tłingit through my great grandparents Nagedzi Yałowad, and Max̱ wala'ogwa, Tommy and Emma Hunt. I carry on the legacy of my great-grandparents, alongside my grandmother Mildred Child, and mother, Sara Child who are my inspiration to weave my culture and language into my everyday modern life. I am a mother of two children, Joey and Aurora who I have been teaching my culture and language to as best I possibly can. Learning Kwak̓wala alongside them gives me the strength and energy to carry on this path and hopefully inspire other families to do the same. I have been involved in Kwak̓wala language revitalization work since I graduated high school and my goal is to continue to gain fluency and pass on my knowledge to those that will listen. I will continue to work for the Sa̱ nyak̓ola Foundation and Hase' Language Revitalization Society and wish to continue my education through SFU when a Bak̓wa̱ mk̓ala diploma and degree are offered in the hopeful near future.



Daniel Ambrose

Ehattesaht Chinehkint First Nation

North Island College

Business Administration Certificate

I have roots in Ehattesaht, Ahousaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, and Gitxsan. I am a Hereditary Tyee Haw'iih. I have 7 years in the financial industry having worked for BMO as a Customer Service Representative and Personal Banking Associate then moved to TD as a Financial Advisor and Coastal Community Credit Union as a Financial Consultant. I recently started as a Business Services Officer at Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation where I am currently learning from Business Development Officers to help Indigenous people/ businesses develop plans and access commercial loans. I enjoy swimming, concert going, working, and spending time with family. I was a competitive swimmer for 6 years and was invited to North American Indigenous Games in 2006 where I won 8 medals and again in 2008 but, was not able to make it due to coach moving back home to Ontario to be closer with family.



Daniel Blakney

Siska Indian Band

University of Fraser Valley

Heavy Duty Mechanical Foundations

I'm Daniel Blakney and from Chilliwack BC. My career goal is to become a heavy duty mechanic and enroll myself into the field to fix equipment as it's always been a dream of mine since my grandpa did it and showed me how cool it really is to be a mechanic.



Daniel Stewart

Old Masset Village Council

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Residential Construction Foundations

My plan is to get my red seal in carpentry. our village is putting on the course for the 4 years. Also I would like to get anything or everything for my first grand-baby.



Danielle Wall

Wet'suwet'en First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Nadut'en Language Fluency Diploma

I recently graduated from the Nadut'en Language Fluency Certificate program and will be completing the Nadut'en Language Diploma program this year. I plan on attending NITEP at UBC so I can teach the witsuwit'en language and culture in schools and communities. I love the program I am enrolled in and the resources and the knowledge I have gained in the past two years.



David Greene

Saik'uz First Nation

College of New Caledonia

Heavy Mechanical Foundations

It has been 15 years since I graduated from Nechako Valley Secondary School in Vanderhoof B.C. I obtained my class 1 license in 2019. Now I am seeking to become a dual red seal ticket journeyman. Truck and Transport Mechanic & Heavy Equipment Technician. I plan to start my own business and own my own trucks. I will be able to service my trucks and equipment . I want to be all that I can be, for my family, so I know I can provide for them, and future generations.



Denise Sellars

Xats'ull First Nation

Simon Fraser University

Indigenous Language

Proficiency Diploma

Weytkp! Denise Sellars re skwest. Sťek ke te Xatśúll ne Secwepemcúĺcw ne BC. Re ki7ce skwest.s ri7 Shirley David, sťek te ne Witset First Nations ne BC. Re qe7tse sk-west.s ri7 PeeWee Sellars (aka Jim Sellars), sťek te ne Xatśúll ell. Tsyem-kuc meť len sxélwe ell stsmelt-kuc ne Penkupe BC. My mother's name is Shirley David from Witset First Nation in BC. My father's name is PeeWee Sellars (aka Jim Sellars) who is also from Xatsúll First Nation. I started my language learning journey in the fall of 2020. It has been my one "silver lining" in this global pandemic. This is because due to the global restric-tions my teacher was forced to create an online option for her language proficiency language diploma program. This was my saving grace which has launched my language teaching career.



Domonique Taylor

Penelakut Indian Band

Sprott Shaw College

Early Childhood Education

My Hulquminum name is Sullopqun Tunaat. I am 24 years young, and I am from Penelakut island. I am taking the early child hood education program, I am truly loving the experience. It took me a while to decide what career path I wanted to go down. I am beyond happy with my choice and am loving every second of learning all this new knowledge. I can't wait to complete the course and to graduate! It has been a challenge for me to get back into school, so I am feeling proud of myself for getting this far! Never give up on your dreams!



Elizabeth Tom

Stz'uminus First Nation

Simon Fraser University

Indigenous Language

Proficiency Diploma

I am very passionate about my language and culture and I want to become fluent in the hulq'umi'num language and go into a teaching career. I aspire to become a hulq'umi'num' teacher. My great grand-mother was a fluent speaker and teacher but sadly her Alzheimer's had gotten worse and she was unable to teach me.



Giselle Torres

Okanagan Indian Band

British Columbia Institute of Technology

Construction Estimating

I intend to graduate in the summer, and start my career in construction as a Junior Estimator. Eventually I would like to work my way up to Senior Estimator. Thank you so much NRT for supporting me in my educational journey, I will be forever grateful!



Hayley Mills

Skidegate Band Council

Pacific Rim Early Childhood Institute

Early Childhood Education Post Basic

I am fortunate to live and work in my village influencing our younger generations. My teaching style is to incorporate as much traditional teachings, exploration of our land, promote independence, and encourage physical and cognitive growth. I am honored to provide care and love in a safe supportive environment for our future generations.



Holly West

Takla Lake First Nation

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Arts - Public Administration

After a decade working in the kitchen, I felt my passion for culinary arts was beginning to fade. I exchanged chef hat for a student card! I have previously completed my Bcomm- Accounting. Following a successful completion of a certificate, diploma, and degree programs, I worked in finance for 2 years after graduating. I discovered a had a knack for Education and quickly changed the direction in my education/ work journey. Now, I am full time Education Manager for my Nation! I am pursuing my 2nd bachelor's at UNBC to open doors to embrace opportunities. I am determined be the voice to support students, to help close the achievement gap and improve graduation rates. I am so thankful for this opportunity and support I am receiving with this NRT to get an appropriate higher education. This provide an educative learning environment so I can meet the learning styles, implement practices that ensure success to bring a brighter future and establish positive changes.
Mussi cho (Thank you)

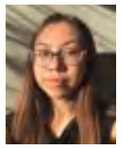


Jacqueline Brooks

Cowichan Tribes

Vancouver Island University
Early Childhood Education

I am proud to say that I am working on completing the Early Childhood and Education Diploma program. I started in the Aboriginal University Bridging Program at Vancouver Island University. I look forward to showing my children and grandchildren that completing university is important and can be done at any time.



Jada Michel

Skwlax te Secwepemculecw

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language Proficiency Diploma

Weytk, my name is Jada Michel and I am from Adams Lake of the Secwépemc nation. I am finishing a language proficiency program for Shuswap in Fall 2022. Within this diploma program, it has interconnected me to self identity and the importance of what is to be shared for future generations. I am grateful to have learned so much and looking forward to continue my language journey beyond this program.



Janice Thompson

Boothroyd Indian Band

Vancouver Community College
Jewellery Art and Design

My name is Janice Thompson, I am from the Nlaka'pamux/Sto:lo Nation I have recently graduated from the Native Education College. I plan to pursue my career in Fine Arts

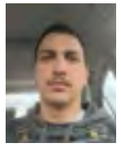


John Kerrigan

Old Masset Village Council

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Financial Planning Diploma

I currently live in Vancouver, where I attend the financial planning diploma program at BCIT. I am a devoted father of two children, who wishes to provide the best possible future for my family. My career goal is to become a certified financial planner. With this profession designation, I plan to make an impact in indigenous communities by teaching financial literacy to their representing members.



Johnathon Davidson

Lytton First Nation

Pacific Vocational College
Plumbing

Hi I am John. I am born and raised in Vancouver. I plan to start my own company one day. Thank you very much, take care.



Jonathon Nolie

Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

I grew up in East Vancouver in Native Housing, steps from the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Center, where I was introduced to my culture. My Grand-parents were residential school survivors, my Mom was a 60s scoop survivor, and I was a child in care at the end of my teens. I know what it is like to grow up in East Van and the impacts of intergenerational trauma have had on our people. I will complete my Bachelor of Social Work as a starting point for working with people like myself living in an urban world far from their homelands, fighting to hold onto their history and culture while making the community a better place for all to thrive and succeed in a world that tried to assimilate us and eradicate our way of life. I will be there to support any person who wants help with any aspect of their life that I can help support.
We can be proud to come from the Downtown East Side of Vancouver while holding and caring on our traditions and knowledge kept safe by generations of fighters and survivors.



Josephine Louie

Stz'uminus First Nation

University of Victoria
Indigenous Language Revitalization Certificate

'Uy'Skweyul (Good Day) my name is Josephine Louie. I am from Stzuminus First Nation. I am taking the Certificate Indigenous Language Revitalization Program at the University of Victoria. My goal is to finish the certificate program, continue on with my education and do the Diploma Indigenous Language Revitalization; with final education journey to continue on and do Bachelor of Education Program. It is my goal to work in our Community School to teach our children and youth language and to become a advocate for language revitalization.



Joshua Barker

Heiltsuk Nation

UA Piping Industry College of BC
Sprinkler fitting

My name is Joshua Barker. I was raised by my mother Rita Hebb who is a 60's scoop from Heiltsuk. My first experience with anything Aboriginal was when a friend showed me an ACCESS advertisement of piping foundation. I hesitated but proceeded to look into this opportunity. Here, I met my first Aboriginal friends as well as my career aspirations. My goal is to pass the sprinkler fitter Inter-Provincial Red Seal Exam, receive the Certificate of Apprenticeship from the Industry Training Authority and The Inter-Provincial Sprinkler Fitter Certificate of Qualification and to join the Union.



Kaitlyn Cunningham

Katzie First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language
Proficiency Diploma

I am Kaitlyn Cunningham from Katzie First Nation. I am a student as well as a teacher. My main goal for the last decade has been to help to revitalize our language, the downriver dialect of həńq̓əmiń əm̓.



Kaley Shields

Seton Lake Band

Thompson Rivers University
Electrical Construction Level 3

K’alhwa7al’ap, my name is Kaley Shields, I am Tsal’alhmelhkan of the St’át’imc Nation. I’m a Two-Spirit female and enjoy hunting and fishing with my family. I also like playing ball hockey, hiking, and connecting with the land and my culture. I’m a third-year Electrical Apprentice, and I hope to own my own business one day. I strive to be a role model for other young women and Two-Spirit people interested in the trades. I would like to extend gratitude and great appreciation to the NRT for the support of my career and education. Kukwstumulhkacw!



Karalee Antoine

Saik’uz First Nation

Douglas College
Criminology

My name is Karalee Antoine. I am from Vancouver BC. My career goals are to work within law enforcement either as a police officer or probation officer.



Kayla Gambler

Dzawada’enuxw

Douglas College
Youth Justice Worker Diploma

I am descendant of the Musgamagw Dzawada’enuxw tribes of Kingcome Inlet, British Columbia, and the Anishinaabe of Pine Creek First Nation, Manitoba. I reside in the city of Vancouver, B.C., on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.
I am currently enrolled in the Youth Justice Worker Diploma Program at Douglas College and plan to transfer into Social Work with an Indigenous Specialization at the University of Victoria. In recent years I have had the pleasure of working for two non-profit organizations in Vancouver, B.C., who provide services to the Indigenous community and residents of the Downtown Eastside 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 New Relationship Trust Foundation for providing me with the support to reach my educational goals!



Keegan Stephens

Laxgalt’sap

Douglas College
Associate of Science

I will be pursuing an Associate of Science Degree at Douglas College as I work towards my goal of becoming an Advanced Care Paramedic. After Douglas I will transfer to SFU to then complete my Bachelor of Science Degree as I’d like to keep my options open in the healthcare field for the future. I will then enroll in the paramedic program and work towards becoming an Advanced Care Paramedic (provides advanced, specialized care). This career excites me as it not only challenges me, but allows me to contribute to my community in an important way. As a First Nations person, I want to help bring better and more equitable healthcare to Indigenous people. The COVID pandemic really enforced my love of science and the important role it plays in society in terms of improving our lives through health-care. Thank you so much NRT Foundation for your support and generosity, I’m so grateful for this bursary!



Raine Plante

Gitlaxtaamiks

Vancouver Film School
Animation Concept Art

My name is Raine Plante, I’m from South Delta and currently working to become a concept artist and character designer. I’m the only artist from the lower mainland in my class, and plan to represent that in my projects.

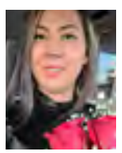


Laura Peter

Cowichan Tribes

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language
Proficiency Diploma

My name is tsikwaat. I am currently taking the hul’q’umi’num’ language program to learn my language. I started the journey with this language program to help revitalize our language. Through the duration of this program I intend on learning everything technical and verbal to help educate our people and help the future hul’q’umi’num’ language thrive that English will be our second language. I am blessed to be surrounded by so many language speakers that will help me gain the fluency I need to help move forward with them in bringing our hul’q’umi’num’ language back to life. I think one of the toughest things I had when I first started learning my language was forgetting absolutely everything that I know about English, as the hul’q’umi’num’ alphabet sounds are not the same as English sounds. I am looking forward to my hul’q’umi’num’ language journey and hope that some day I can listen to our future generations speak to each other in hul’q’umi’num’.



Leah Spalding

Gingolx

University of Victoria
Northwest Indigenous Advancement of Cultural Entrepreneurship

I am Nisga’a Tsimshian Norwegian, from Kincolith, BC. I grew up in Kitsumkalum, BC & plan to operate my Hair Wellness salon in Terrace, BC. Doing hair repair & treatments using custom remedies, doing pre-hair services or natural or hair maintenance and damage prevention.



Lepika Saddleman

Okanagan Indian Band

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Associate of Arts

Heńłeʔ | Waý | I am a member of the Okanagan Indian band where I was born and raised. I currently reside within the Nlaka'pamux Nation where my maternal side of the family is from. I am currently completing my Associate of Arts degree and plan to continue on with my Social Work Degree. Kwukwscemxw, limləmt Lepika Saddleman.



Loretta Wilson

Cowichan Tribes

Simon Fraser University
Hul'q'umi'num Language
Proficiency Diploma Program

I am the mother of 7 children. I hope to one day become a teacher of the FNEL's. I began my journey with my son whom was 4 at the time and he wanted to learn the Hul'q'umi'num' language. I agreed to take the courses while he attended full time immersion program in kindergarten. Unfortunately we lost our son in a tragic event but I would like to continue this journey and complete it in his honour.



Lilly Teare Cunningham

Katzie First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language
Proficiency Diploma

I was born and raised on my traditional territory in Pitt Meadows. My journey with our language began when I was about 10, but my passion ignited in Grade 8 through language classes. By Grade 10, I enrolled in my first university class to deepen my knowledge of həńq̓əmíńəm̓. This class inspired me, but COVID-19 hit in March and paused everything. In Grade 12, I joined a year-long SFU program to earn a First Nations language certificate, graduating in June 2022—the same week as high school. Now, in January 2023, I'm nearly finished with my diploma and plan to pursue my BA. My passion and career goals remain rooted in my culture and language. I'm deeply grateful to NRT for selecting me for this award and inspiring me to continue preserving and sharing our language.



Madison Brown

Old Masset Village Council

Langara College
Criminal Justice

My English name is Madison Brown, and my Haida name is Xaaya Jaad. I am from Haida Gwaii and moved to Vancouver in 2019. Once I am finished with university and law school, I plan on becoming a lawyer and fighting Aboriginal injustices and the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the criminal justice system. As an Aboriginal woman, my main concern is MMIWG and the injustices that the MMIWG and their families face due to lack of support by authorities. I want to make a change and for authorities to step in more rather than have just the families searching for the MMIWG and actually get answers and not just have them brush it off. There are many other problems that need to be dealt with for Aboriginal people and our communities, and I want our future generations to have a safer and better society.



Lorraine Frenchie

Snuneymuxw First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language Proficiency Diploma

'ii ch 'uw' 'uy' 'ul' si'em'? 'een'thu 'p'e' yuwunat/ snuneymuxw. Shirley Frenchie is my English name. tun'ni tsun 'utl' snuneymuxw. I am in the process of achieving my Bachelor of Arts in our Coast Salish -hul'q'umi'num' language. Being the youngest of eleven children and the first one to enter into university from my family. I am proud to maintain our culture and language by teaching our hul'q'umi'num' language and snu' 'uy'ulh (sacred) teachings. I will also be honoring my bloodline: my Grandparents and Parents were fluent speakers- until now: the hul'q'umi'num' language is coming back to my dad- who had it beat out of him in residential school when he was seven years old. He is eighty-nine- today. He said it is coming back to him by listening to us student's, Elder's and Teacher's on zoom everyday. I am following in the foot steps of my late mom- she was a fluent and well respected individual who had a passion to enlighten, teach, share and show compassion for every human being in the natural world with unconditional love and respect. Her spirituality complimented her mental and physical being – she was one with nature- at all times!



Monica Wilson

Stz'uminus First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Hul'q'umi'num Language Proficiency
Diploma Program

'Uy' skweyul sii'em nu sii'yeyu's een' thu Qwa'tsa'maat. tuni' tsun ultstzuminus. S-hwunitumult nu sne, Monica Wilson. "Hello, my respected friends. My traditional name is Qwa'tsa'maat, my borrowed name is Monica Wilson. I am from Stz'uminus territory in Ladysmith, BC." I am a language learner with Simon Fraser University. My main goal is to bring back our sacred language. It is my dream to be a language teacher within my community and create more immersion classes to enliven this rich culture and sacred language. I grew up always, hearing my grandparents speak hul'qu'minum, so fluent as well. I never got my chance to learn my language due to my parents and elders being worried about residential school and/or day school. 2021, I saw my chance to learn. I took it! I can feel it being brought back to life. I have never felt so... close... to my culture as I am now. I cannot wait to see what my next step is.



Malcolm Tait-Morgan

Gingolx

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Aircraft Maintenance
Engineering Category

My name is Malcolm Tait-Morgan, I'm a Nisga'a and Gitxsan Individual, Hailing from Gingolx BC. In the future I strive to become a fully certified Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME). Eventually hoping to repair and work on the aircraft my mom operates on.

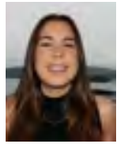


Mary Mackenzie

Simpcw First Nation

University of Victoria
Public Relations

Weyt-kp xwexwéytep, (Hello Everyone,) I currently work for my First Nation's Economic Development company, Simpcw Resources Group (SRG). I started my career as a bookkeeper with SRG and have now moved onto Communications Liaison. I have found a passion in connecting with my community. I am currently enrolled in the Public Relations Diploma program at the University of Victoria and am hoping to use these credits once completed the program to complete my degree at Thompson Rivers University. My career goals are to hopefully one day be the Communications Manager at the company I currently work for, and to continue to provide opportunities for Simpcw First Nation members whether it be in job or training opportunities, or to connect them with our multitude of business partners to help them achieve their dreams and goals. Kukwstsétsemc, thank you for this opportunity to continue on with my academic goals.



Mary Williams

Old Masset Village Council

Camosun College
Indigenous Studies

I am from the Kunn Laanas Raven clan of Old Masset, I am a proud member of the Haida Nation and am very honored to have received this award! Haawa for your continued support, I am forever grateful!



Matthew Prince

Nak'azdli Whut'en Band

College of New Caledonia
Carpentry Foundations

Hi my name is Matthew Prince. I am from Nak'azdli Band in Fort St. James. I just recently graduated in June. I am taking the Carpentry Foundations Program at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George, BC. I want pursue my career as a Carpenter and get my Red Seal. In the future I may pursue another Trade with my Carpentry such as Electrical or Plumbing.



Mercedes Abou

Iskut First Nation

Blanche Macdonald
Professional Hairstyling

My name is Mercedes Abou, I am 27 years of age. I am First Nations, from the Tahltan Nation. I am from Iskut, BC. I am attending Blanche Macdonald in Vancouver. For Hairdressing school. My goal from this program is to learn all there is to know in this trade. And to bring it home to offer the service. I am so grateful for this award



Michayla King

Kwakiutl Band Council

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language
Proficiency Diploma

I am from the Dzawada'enuxw tribe. I am currently living in Port Hardy and am enrolled in a program that is giving me the opportunity to learn my ancestral language of kwakwala and reconnect with the community that my family has been displaced from. My goal is to become a language teacher and provide others with the opportunity to learn their language and more about their culture.



Nico York

Old Masset Village Council

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
Residential Construction Foundations

My name is Nico York, I was born & raised on Haida Gwaii. graduated from George M Dawson. currently working on second year in carpentry program, and this bursary will help out my little family quite a bit while i am finishing up my program.



Noah Ribeiro

Gitwangak Band Council

Red Deer Polytechnic
Justice Studies Diploma

I have already completed one year of my Justice Studies diploma and plan to expand my education further once I complete this course. I have a passion for helping people, and my goal to join the RCMP doesn't shy away from that passion. I would like not only to help the perception of police in the eyes of many but to also help expand on the community side of policing.



Paul Tait

Gitlaxtaamiks

British Columbia Institute of Technology
Millwright Apprentice
(Harmonized) Level 2

I am from the house of Gwisgayin which is white spirit grizzly. My Tribe is Laxgibuu which is wolf and sub tribe grizzly. I've passed level 2 recently and I'll reach my career goal as a red seal millwright. I love my job as a union millwright since every job is different and requires critical thinking to get our tasks done. We service motors, conveyors, bearings, cranes, elevators, chutes, shafts, gates, and just about everything mechanical in industry. My union also got me many tickets for the job like fall protection, fork lift, confined space, aerial work platform and zoom boom. We are the Doctors of machinery. I am very grateful for my union for finding me and recruiting me right out of millwright foundations. They have made being a millwright way easier and helped me achieve all I have now. I believe I will be with millwright union 2736 until I retire. I started my journey as a millwright at the age of 26 and I believe it is never too late to start a career in anything you want to succeed in as long as you put in the work and believe In yourself. Some millwrights I work with are much older than I and they are just starting out as a millwright. My band gave me this opportunity and I ran with it, not knowing what a millwright was. Becoming a millwright was the best decision I have ever made and I am excited for what's to come. A lot more knowledge and growth to be achieved still and I can't wait to get even more experience in all fields of millwright work.



Rachel Luchuk

Kwakiutl Band Council

Native Education College

Indigenous Land Stewardship

yo g̲ ilakas’la. nugwa’a̲ m Rachel. gayutła̲ n la̲x̲ Tsa̲x̲ is. gayutła̲ n la̲x̲ a kwagu’ł dłu’ k̲ wik̲ wa̲ sut’ inu̲x̲ w dłu’ stó:lō. k̲’ a̲k̲’ ut’ła̲ n kwa̲k̓wala. Hello, welcome! My name is Rachel. I come from the village of Fort Rupert. I come from the kwagu’ł and k̲ wik̲ wa̲ sut’ inu̲x̲ w and stó:lō. I am learning my kwa̲k̓wala language. I am an Indigenous, single mom living and learning on the unceded territories of the Sḵwx̱ wú7mesh, xʷməθkʷəy̓əm and səlilwətaɬ (Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh). I am currently enrolled in the Indigenous Land Stewardship Certificate Program. Once completed I am interested in taking the Indigenous Justice Studies program, which then I can further my education and go for a Degree in Urban Land Use Planning. My motivation to take this course is to become a voice of reason on many of the Indigenous, and land issues that our communities are facing. I would like to help heal the impacts and issues the lands face today, and help to preserve our sacred lands for the future generations. g̲ ilakas’la - Thank you



Robin Burke

Fort Nelson First Nation

College of New Caledonia

Associate of Arts - Anthropology

I grew up in Prince George and am a proud member of Fort Nelson First Nation. I decided to stay in my hometown to attend post-secondary school to stay close to family, who have supported my journey and are very important to me. After high school, I wasn’t so sure what I wanted my future to look like career-wise. I began my education studying in the healthcare sector before I discovered my love for the study of humanity. I am working towards an associate degree in anthropology for the time being to expand my socio-cultural knowledge. I am grateful for the opportunity to develop my wisdom and share it with others to give back to the community.



Robyn Tardif

Shuswap Indian Band

Simon Fraser University

Indigenous Language

Proficiency Diploma

Weyt-kp, re skwest ri7 Robyn Tardif. Sx̱ 7ek-ke te Kenpesq̓t. Hello, my name is Robyn Tardif. I am from the Shuswap Band in the Columbia Valley region. I recently completed the Secwepemc Proficiency Language Program at Simon Fraser University. I am a multimedia artist passionate about sharing knowledge and learning new skills. I would love to further my studies by obtaining my teaching degree and possibly getting my master’s degree. I would love to teach people a combination of art and language. I am genuinely looking forward to the future and am very grateful for the support I have received during my studies.



Sage Tomma

Skwlax te Secwepemculecw

Okanagan College

Educational Assistant Certificate

Hello, my name is Sage Tomma. I am a mother of 3 children and am currently attending school to be an Education Assistant. I have lived in Chase, B.C., and surrounding areas for most of my life. I love living here and it is a goal of mine to work within my community. I hope to have a role working with youth and supporting my band. I want to be a role model and hopefully, make a difference in kids’ lives. I didn’t have anyone to look out for me growing up so I’m hoping I can do that for others. I would like to learn more about trauma-informed practice so I applied for Aboriginal Community Support Worker next year. My goal is to learn as much as I can so I can help my community heal and thrive.



Selina Child

Kwakiutl Band Council

Camosun College

Associate of Arts

Gilakas’daxwla Nugwa’ām t’u’tubidu Selina xalas suwān ugwaka. Gayutlān laxa Kwakiutl. My name is little star, I come from the Kwakiutl. I am a mother of three bright and beautiful children, becoming a mother at the age of 16 was life changing at such a young age, but I was determined to model for my children and others that you can still follow your dreams and be successful no mater what crosses your path, throughout my life I have had challenges and some traumatic times, but I always had support. Early on I knew I always wanted to do something in terms of helping others the best way I could and how I was supported, I went to school for nursing and have done that off and on over the last 10 years and now I am working towards my Indigenous Social Work degree, my goal is to help by becoming a counsellor and support individuals.



Skie Campbell

Leq’a: mel First Nation

North Island College

Human Services Certificate

Hello, I am Skie Campbell, I was born and raised in Leqamel First Nation. I currently reside on Vancouver Island on the territory of the Ligwiłda’xw people; the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum and Kwiakah First Nations. This year I will be starting my journey into becoming an Educational Assistant. I will be there to help our young youth throughout their journey in the school system. It takes a village to help raise the future generations and I’m very excited to be apart of that. I look forward to working with the youth of our future.



Tania Solonas

Tsekani First Nation

Native Education College

Indigenous Land Stewardship

Fostering positive community unity and sustainable growth for our children's future. Tania Solonas is a member of the Tse'Khene Nation (People of the Rocks) & grew up in McLeod Lake, BC. She is certified in First Nations Applied Lands Management & Tax Administration through TULO – Centre of Indigenous Economics at the Thompson Rivers University. A mother of two beautiful girls, Tania is passionate about helping move the community forward with sustainability & unity in mind, Tania is the Land Management Officer for the McLeod Lake Indian Band. She enjoys walking, hiking, being a volunteer for the Tse'Khene Fire Department, Indigenous Zero Waste Technical Advisory Group (IZWTAG), McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest (MLMCF) & various committees. Thankful for a loving family and being an active Steward of the Land.



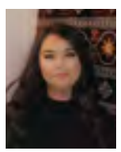
Taylor Nash

Tahltan Band Council

Momentum

Digital Dreamers Digital Marketing

My name is Taylor Leone Nash, I am from the Wolf clan in the Tahltan tribe. I am a Father, a Husband and I'm also a strong supporter in positive self expression (this would explain my tattoos). I feel like its important to my personal growth to be who I truly am and to make sure I am living by the 7 sacred teachings every day. I come from a big family and currently live in Calgary, Alberta while studying Digital marketing through a program offered by momentum at SAIT. I wanted to get involved in digital marketing to help indigenous businesses reach their online audiences more efficiently. I want to provide a product and a service to push forward the Indigenous entrepreneurs of the world while maintaining a quality and authentic experience.



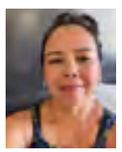
Taylor Duncan

Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nation

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

Associate of Arts

My name is Taylor Duncan. I am a 29 year old First Nations woman who was born and raised in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. Post Secondary education has been the biggest blessing in my life, I hope to one day make an impact in the community that raised me and help other Aboriginals in the DTES.



Terri Allen

Cowichan Tribes

Simon Fraser University

Hul'q'umi'num Language Proficiency Diploma Program

'eenthu yu kwiliye , terri allen , tu ni'tsun utl lhumlhumuluts'i' comiaken 'i' pauquachin . working towards fluency and preservation of our hul'q'umi'num language. Teaching my children and grandchildren as a start I have spent a great part of life in the healthcare field, and look forward to life long learning of our hul'q'umi'num language with a goal of teaching .



Trey Rorick

Skidegate Band Council

Coast Mountain College

First Nations Studies

My name is Guustlas Rorick from the Naa Saagaas XaaydaGaay Eagle Clan. I am a Haida artist and I have been accepted into the Freda Diesing school of Northwest Coast Art in Terrace, BC. I first discovered my passion for the arts growing up and watching my sister Raven LeBlanc flourish in her career as a Haida artist. I was inspired to pick up books on Haida art and start sketching and practicing Formline on my own. I also taught myself weaving and carving through trial and error. After graduating from high school, I took my passion to the next level and I moved to Port Alberni to apprentice under my uncle Robin Rorick. He helped to guide and refine not only my artistic ability but my confidence as well. Together we worked on my fine painting skills with different mediums, and he introduced me into Formline carving. I also had the advantage to work at the Haida Heritage Centre which helped me gain a closer connection to my culture and interest in Haida art.

> "I was inspired to pick up books on Haida art and start sketching and practicing Formline on my own. I also taught myself weaving and carving through trial and error. After graduating from high school, I took my passion to the next level and I moved to Port Alberni to apprentice under my uncle Robin Rorick.
>
> **— Trey Rorick**



Wesley King

Gitwinksihlkw

British Columbia Institute of Technology

Bridge Watch Rating - School of Transportation

I welcome each and every one of you that read this bio. I wish to extend my gratitude to the NRT for selecting me to receive this award. It is a tremendous aid during my studies. I have successfully completed my Enhanced Bridge Watch Rating at BCIT. I am a proud Indigenous Man who is from the Anishinabe and Nisga'a Nations. I am of the Ganaada Tribe from the Village of Gitwinksihlkw. Our beautiful coast lines need to be protected and with this training I will be working in the Tug Boat industry doing my part to ensure ships and tanks come to and from our ports safely.



Zaine MacInnis

Lower Nicola Indian Band

Thompson Rivers University

Electrical Foundation Program

My name is Zaine MacInnis. I was born and grew up in Salmon Arm, BC. My dad is of Scottish & English descent and my mom is Nlaka'pamux from the Nicola Valley. I love to learn about my culture and am proud to be Indigenous.



Ada Jules

Adams Lake Indian Band

University of Victoria
Bachelor of Education - Indigenous Language Revitalization

I am Ada Jules from the Secwépemc territory. From the age of 4 to 14 attended Chief Atahm School, where I learned how to speak my traditional language. My dad is a residential school survivor, in which he encouraged me to continue learning and speaking our language. Given the hardship of my educational journey, it was never in my plans to go back to university or any type of schooling. However, over the years I learned to importance of language revitalization. It is now my goal to become a certified teacher and teach my traditional language to adults and children. I am a few short months from achieving my goal. With that, anything is possible as long as you can see the big picture.



Alexandra Papps

Laxgalt'sap

University of Northern British Columbia
Bachelor of Science - Wildlife and Fisheries

My name is Alexandra Papps. I am a Nisga'a woman who grew up in Terrace & Laxgalts'ap, BC. After completing a diploma in environmental resource technology I was inspired to continue my education to become a scientist. I transferred from NVIT to UNBC to complete my degree in science with a specialty of Wildlife and Fisheries.
Growing up in Terrace & Laxgalts'ap I quickly became aware of how important fish were and always will be to my people, the Nisga'a Nation. I want my 3 children to experience the rich culture I had growing up and pass this knowledge onto the next generation. An integral part of my plan includes protecting Salmon, and ooli-chan for future generations.
New relationship trust and been one of my continued supports that is making my education journey possible. As a first generation University student I find myself learning things at a different pace than my peers and having the financial support really makes a difference in my academic success.

NRT | Undergraduate



Aiden Antoine

Bonaparte First Nation

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Commerce

I was born in Vancouver, BC, and was raised in a few different cities: Richmond, Langley, Surrey, Cache Creek, and Kamloops (in that order). Now, I'm back in Vancouver, studying Business Technology Management for my Bachelor of Commerce at the UBC Sauder School of Business. In terms of my career, I am interested in roles involving data analytics, project management, or information technology. However, my ultimate career goal is to be able to give back to others through the work that I do, no matter what specific role or organization I am a part of - and I believe that an education in commerce will help me achieve this goal.

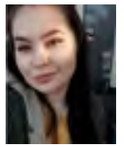


Alexis Baldwin

Gitwangak Band Council

University of Fraser Valley
Bachelor of Science

Tansi! I am Alexis Baldwin, I was born and raised within the Sto: lo Territory of the Fraser Valley, and proudly still call it home to this day. My Indigenous roots come from the West Coast of the Gitwangak First Nation and the Eastern of Ojibwe Cree. I am grateful and proud of my Indigenous heritage and its beautiful culture. I am honoured as the first daughter and granddaughter within my family to have the opportunity to pursue a bachelor degree. My BSc degree has always been driven by my desire to give back to my family and the community; for it is one of the ways I know that I can say thank you and make a positive difference. My biggest supporter within my education has always been my Papa, Ron Anderson. I would not have been able to pursue this dream of mine without his unwavering support. My career goal is to open my own clinic within the Fraser Valley to help those in need. I would also like to help the next generation of Indigenous peoples and people of minority pursue their career goals or post-secondary education, especially within the field of sciences.



Alexis Thompson

We Wai Kai

Capilano University
Bachelor of Science

My goal through education is to complete a Masters and Ph.D. in atomic fusion, then work in the field of atomic fusion to establish a reliable renewable energy source. I want to help expand this reliable renewable energy source to isolated communities, as many Indigenous bands are impoverished because they lack reliable energy. My ultimate goal in life is to improve the living conditions of Canada's Indigenous people.



April Pierre

Katzie First Nation

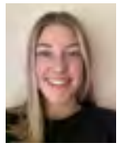
Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies

I have fallen in love with Indigenous studies because it allowed me to learn about my own history and I have found my self identity through my studies. Being able to fully understand Indigenous history allowed me to understand how much intergenerational trauma has affected my mental well being. Being able to under-stand has allowed me to forgive and heal close relationships with family members. I hope to share my education to help others achieve the same.



Ayana Brown
Lower Nicola Indian Band
Utah Tech University
Bachelor of Accounting

My name is Ayana Brown and I am a member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band located in Merritt, BC. I am a senior this year double majoring in accounting and art (painting, drawing, illustration emphasis). I'm a third-year member of the Utah Tech Ballroom team and a lover of anything outdoors. I hope to earn an MBA with an accounting emphasis to one day become a CPA after my master's degree. My dream is to one day own an art and customers service business. I am so grateful for NRTF for the opportunity to earn this scholarship.



Camryn Parnell
Old Masset Village Council
University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

My name is Camryn Parnell, I'm Haida from Old Masset, Haida Gwaii. I'm studying in the Bachelor of Arts program at UBC Okanagan and plan to major in Psychology. My goal is to pursue a career in social work and I'm excited to begin my journey towards this goal.

> "I intend to continue on my education journey to become a Clinical Counsellor for the Syilx First Nation, my cultural principles and values with inform my practice to support me in Indigenizing therapy.
>
> **— Catherine Louis**



Brody Milne
Kispiox Band Council
University of Fraser Valley
Bachelor of Arts

My name is Brody Milne. I am from Surrey, BC and a member of the Kispiox band. When I graduated from highschool, I didn't know what I wanted to do for a future career, but after taking a couple courses at the University of the Fraser Valley, I decided I wanted to head into the field of Kinesiology. My hope is to graduate with my degree in Kinesiology and then go to another university for my masters degree in Occupational Therapy.



Catherine Louis
Okanagan Indian Band
University of Victoria
Bachelor of Social Work

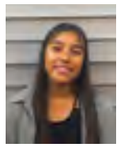
Wáy, My name is Catherine Louis, I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band of the Syilx First Nation located in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. My peoples and the valley I was raised in, inform my career goals. I intend to continue on my education journey to become a Clinical Counsellor for the Syilx First Nation, my cultural principles and values with inform my practice to support me in Indigenizing therapy. lim'lemt l thank you.



Caytlyn Luke
Lower Kootenay Indian Band
University of Victoria
Bachelor of Education

Kisuk Kyukyit,My name is Caytlyn Red Fawn Luke and I am entering the final year of my Bachelor of Education degree. I am from Yaqan Nukiy Band from the Ktunaxa Nation which is located in southeastern British Columbia. My career goals are to go for my Masters of Indigenous Education as well as English as I am very passionate about them. I would like to build Ktunaxa Curriculum that can help my people learn more about who they are, as well as our non-indigenous counterparts to learn more about us, too. I'd like to Master in English because I enjoy reading and writing, and I'd like to write a few books of my own, including an indigenous children's picture book with my Grandpa. In the future, I'd like to return to my home community of Yaqan Nukiy to teach at Yaqan Nukiy school. I've always wanted to give back to my community somehow and I feel this is the best way to do so. I am very grateful to have received an award from the NRT foundation. Receiving this allows me to continue to follow my dreams of becoming an educator for our future generations. Thank you so much.

> "I want to help others build a safe space to transition from loss to peace. This is my gift to share. I am so grateful to the New Relationship Trust for this Scholarship Award. It means so much to me and my family and takes some of the financial burden away so I can focus on my studies.
>
> **— Christie Perley**



Chiara Alfaro McCarthy
Ucluelet Indian Band
Vancouver Island University
Bachelor of Education

I was born in Campbell River but currently live in Nanaimo to attend Vancouver Island University. I have always loved working with kids; I was a summer camp leader when I was younger and worked as a dance teacher after high school. Once I graduate, I look forward to becoming an elementary school teacher and supporting the younger generations while embracing Indigenous ways of teaching.



Christie Perley
T'Sou-ke Nation
University of Victoria
Bachelor of Arts

It will be an honor to use my education to help people. I want to create positive and lasting changes to our environment and make wellness spaces a larger part of our amazing world. I am in the process of completing my Bachelor of Psychology and Masters of Counselling at The University of Victoria. I am on my way to becoming a Registered Clinical Counsellor and am very motivated to work with women, children/youth and families in Indigenous communities. I want to help others build a safe space to transition from loss to peace. This is my gift to share. I am so grateful to the New Relationship Trust for this Scholarship Award. It means so much to me and my family and takes some of the financial burden away so I can focus on my studies. I have felt the spirit of my ancestors guiding me through my educational journey and my path to serving my beloved community.



Cody Teichroeb

Westbank First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts - Psychology

My name is Cody Teichroeb, I am a proud Syilx man from Westbank BC. It is a privilege to accept this scholarship, and I deeply thank those who made the decision to choose me. With this scholarship, I am better able to focus on my studies as I pursue a BA in Psychology on my way to becoming a counselor.



Dakoda Morrison

Gingolx

Douglas College

Bachelor of Arts - Criminology

My name is Dakoda Morrison, and I am Ganada from the village of Gingolx. I am a proud member of the Ksim Xsaan wilp within the Nisga'a Nation. I am entering the third year of my degree in Criminology. Thank you for this award.



Dana Roberts

We Wai Kum

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Education - Indigenous Language Revitalization

I am Liǧʷiɬdaxʷ from the Campbell River First Nation originally from Cape Mudge. I am married to Tony for 37 years and I had five children, my middle daughter passed last fall, I have two sons and two daughters, two awesome grandsons and five awesome granddaughters. I have been revitalizing Liḱʷala language for over twenty years in the Weiwaikum/ We wai kai communities. For our program to grow we need certified teachers and that is why I have chosen to complete my Bachelor of Education. Liḱʷala language is important to me, it is part of our identity of who we are as First Nations people. I am currently in the Mentor Apprentice Program and have been for the past few years, firstly as a mentee now as a mentor. I have been extremely fortunate to learn from beautiful Elders along my path and for all of them I am grateful.



Danika Shaw

Heiltsuk Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts

Yáu dítgvánṃ̓. Danikaxƛ̓anúgva du Haíɬzaqvnúgva. Hello everyone. My name is Danika and I come from Haíɬzaqv Nation. I'm currently working on my BA at UBC in the First Nations Endangered Languages Program in order to assist my community in revitalizing our language. I currently work as our Urban Haíɬzaqvḷa Instructor and I love finding new and creative ways to teach our grammar. I enjoy rewriting previous literature in a way that is digestible to those who don't know how to read linguist documentation. I'm grateful for the trust my community has in me to do this work and to do it well. I hope to eventually be apart of a project to create an urban land-based language curriculum so our people can interact with the land and waters around us and bring Haíɬzaqvḷa back into their homes.



David George

Skidegate Band Council

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Education

My Name is Gitsga and I come from Haida Gwaii. I plan on becoming a teacher in order to help my community. Eventually I hope to help with our language program on Island.



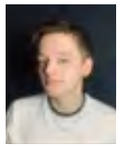
Denise McLean

Gingolx

Royal Roads University

Bachelor of Science - Environmental Science

I am Denise McLean, a Nisga'a Citizen from Prince Rupert. I am attending Royal Roads University to obtain a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Science. I plan on being an environmental consultant for a First Nations Band once I graduate. The scholarship that I have been awarded will help to supplement my tuition payments to guarantee my success in my educational goals. I am deeply appreciative of NRT Foundation for making my career goals a possibility. Without the help of everyone at NRT, I would not be able to continue my education and for that I am honoured to be awarded this Scholarship. Thank you to everyone and I hope to see more Indigenous individuals reach their educational goals and to create a more balanced future for all indigenous people in BC and Canada.



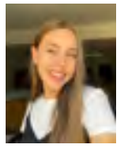
Dreyden George

T'Sou-ke Nation

Queen's University

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) - Economics

I am currently at queens getting my economics major and minor in environmental studies to obtain a Bachelors of Arts Honours. Currently I am working hard at my diversity of classes from Indigenous Studies and Sociology, to math and economics, to biology and geology. My career goals are to get my degree and go back home in BC and start my own business, and run it until it is at the hopes of keeping me financially free and secure to invest in other Indigenous kids/ youth for their entrepreneurial ventures and goals. Overall to assist in the political and economic influence and power for Indigenous people in my community and hopefully Canada.



Emmagin Richardson

Upper Nicola Indian Band

Trinity Western University

Bachelor of Business Administration - Accounting

I have relations with the Spaxomin (Douglas Lake) community, a part of the greater Syilx Okanagan Nation. I am in my fourth year at Trinity Western University and will graduate in April with my Bachelor of Business Administration, Specialization in Accounting. My ultimate dream would be to open a coffee shop. I love drinking coffee, I love serving coffee, and I consider it a privilege to cultivate environments that foster community. Rich community and genuine connection are aspects of life that I've grown passionate about during my Trinity western university experience. It is my hope and joy to translate these same qualities back into the world around me.



Frances Hans

Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education

My name is Frances (Francine) Hans, and I come from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am a Haida woman pursuing a degree in Bachelor of Education. I then want to get my PhD in Education, I want to be an inspiration to my people. As well as become an Indigenous Professor for a university, and inspire university students to chase after their dreams.



Frazer Dodd

Lax-kw'alaams Indian Band

Alvernia University

Bachelor of Biology

Frazer Dodd, Lax Kw'alaams Band Alvernia University PA Biology Degree. My name is Frazer Dodd and I was raised in Hazelton, BC. 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 then a teaching degree where I will influence youth and be a positive role model. I am extremely grateful for the financial support from New Relationship Trust as it will help to pay for my international student fees and allow me to focus on my studies and not worry about finances.



Hunter Lang

Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts - Political Science

My name is Hunter Lang and my pronouns are she/her/hers. I am fifth generation Chinese (Cantonese-speaking) on my mom's side and I am St'at'imc on my dad's side, from Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation. I see myself using a law degree in the future by pursuing justice for systemically disadvantaged groups of people including but not limited to Indigenous peoples, other visible minorities, and forcibly displaced peoples. I want to contribute to the decolonization of our institutions and help to create more equitable systems that aren't designed to privilege one demographic over another. I intend on using my time and career to pursue justice and break down barriers that prevent access to justice for systemically disadvantaged people. I believe receiving a legal education will help me achieve this. I'm passionate about the rights of Indigenous peoples and women, and providing humanitarian aid to those impacted by complex humanitarian emergencies and gross violations of human rights. One day I hope to work for the United Nations in order to make meaningful change on an international scale. I'm very grateful to be receiving this NRT Foundation Post-Secondary Award because it has given me the opportunity to pursue my academic and career goals.



Isaac Hill

Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Commerce

Growing up in a small community, I was exposed to business operations from a young age and had the opportunity to meet individuals involved in different aspects of business. That is when I developed an interest in finance and accounting, and I always admired the complex tasks and problems they solved, which fueled my desire to pursue a career in the financial services sector. In particular, I aim to eventually open my own financial management and advisory firm that works exclusively with Indigenous organizations and businesses as I see a huge need in this sector in my community and others surrounding it. In the meantime, I've had the opportunity to work with KPMG and Deloitte in various departments. Lastly, I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for their continued support they have provided me on my educational endeavours. Without it I truly believe I wouldn't have been able to perform.



Jade Hobenshield

Tla'amin Nation

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Child and Youth Care

Hello My name is Jade Hobenshield, I come from Powell River BC which is on the traditional territory of the Tla'amin Nation. I am proud to be able to have the opportunity to expand on my passion for working with children and to be apart of the shift in awareness around the importance of sharing, embracing and keeping our language and culture alive! Thank you NRT Foundation for your support, this will allow me to continue on with my studies as I venture into year four of my teaching degree, without worrying about the extra expenses involved.



Jennifer Sharp

Esk'etemc

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of General Studies

Wey'tk, Hello! My Name is Jennifer Sharp, and I am twenty-seven years old from Salmon Arm. I am proud to live, learn, and love on the traditional, unceded territory of the Secwepemc people. My ultimate career goal is to be a full-time elementary school teacher.



Joshua Houghton

Squamish First Nations

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Child and Youth Care

kiʔsuʔk kyukyit q̓apiniskiɬ! Hu qakɬik kanuhus ʾa·kinq̓uɬak. Hu kaki kaxi Yaqan Nukiy, hu nini Ktunaxa. My current goals are to graduate from university in the spring of 2023 and return home to teach at Yaqan 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.



Joshua Rolland

We Wai Kai

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Business Administration

My name is Joshua Rolland, I am from the We Wai Kai Nation on Vancouver Island, and have lived here my whole life. I am going into my second year of the business program at Vancouver Island University, with a focus on Accounting or Finance. Following my undergraduate degree, I have plans to further my education in graduate school.



Justine Manuel

Upper Nicola Indian Band

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Language Fluency

way̓ iskʷist qʷʕaʔqʷislaʔqin, kn tl spaxmn, I am so grateful to be given this opportunity in receiving this award. I have worked hard in the last two years pursing my Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Fluency Degree. I have learned so much language in the last two years and I am excited to continue on. I have a dream to help teach the nsyilxcn language in a safe and fun environment. I have always been passionate about language since I was young. It is important for me to learn, share and create space for our language for our future generations. So we can hear and feel the beauty of the sacredness that connects us to our ancestors and our identity. My education journey has been a roller coaster, many life challenges have happened along the way and I am so grateful for my determination and support I have been given to continue on. Thank you to New Relationship Trust Foundation for making this possible. limləmt kʷu kʷukʷstxʷ.



Kaitlynn Muir

Lytton First Nation

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education

For the last five years, I have worked as an Education Assistant for an Indigenous community school in Agassiz. I am entering my final year at UBC in NITEP (The Indigenous Teacher Education Program). I am excited to begin my journey as an Indigenous educator and make a difference for my students. I hope in the future to be able to finish my diploma in literacy development and eventually my Masters in Indigenous education. I want to thank the NRT and my Band for their support in helping me achieve my educational goals.



Keanna Pilkington

Tkemlups Te Secwepemc

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Education

I grew up in Williams Lake, where I completed high school with a Double Dogwood Diploma in 2018. I then moved to Kamloops, where I graduated from Thompson Rivers University with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. I have now moved to Kelowna, and I am going into the Bachelor of Education program at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. Upon graduating this program, my main goal is to become an elementary school teacher. As a teacher, I believe it is important to always consider the First Peoples Principals of Learning while providing quality education to the future generations. Some of my personal interests and passions include: kayaking, paddle boarding, swimming, hiking, crocheting, snowshoeing, and spending quality time with friends and family.

NRT | Undergraduate



Kelly Palm

ʼNamgis First Nation

Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Bachelor of Fine Arts

My name is Kelly Palm, although I often go by Kell, I'm 20 years old and I'm from Roberts Creek, where my immediate family and pets are, but have been living in Burnaby while attending school. I'm going into the second half of my third year, of four, for my Illustration degree and am looking forward to having more in-person classes. Once I finish my degree, I'd still like to attend Vancouver Film School's concept art program as creating concept art and working in visual development for animated films is my dream job. I love the storytelling opportunities granted by animated films and the opportunity for representation and I would love to be involved in that process.



Kimberlyn Kosik

Westbank First Nation

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Language Fluency

Language revitalization is extremely important to me. I have a daughter named Callie. She motivates me to learn the language so that I can teach her and so she can grow up with a sense of pride in knowing her language and culture. I believe that having pride in our language and culture increases community health, well-being and connectedness. My passion is working in community. Upon completion of my degree, I will be sharing what I have learned 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 limləmt.



Laila Lewis-Innes

Gitxaala

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts

My name is Laila Lewis-Innes, my home-town is Prince Rupert and my home village is Gitxaala. I plan to become a research psychologist specializing in the intergenerational trauma of Indigenous people. I want to do so because the ramifications of colonization are felt by all Indigenous people, myself included. Throughout my life I've faced hardships, but I persevered, no matter how hopeless and forlorn I felt. Because of my strength I was able to accomplish great things all on my own. I want the same for others who have lived lives similar to mine. Intergenerational trauma is a serious issue that I want to help address. Because, while pain can be passed through centuries, strength can and has been inherited by all Indigenous people. It is this strength we share that will guide us down the path to healing.



Lenaya Sampson

Siska Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education

I come from the Nlaka'pamux nation where the Thompson and Fraser Rivers meet. I am a teacher candidate in the UBC Teacher education program in their Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Diversity cohort. Once I graduate my hope is to have the opportunity to pay it forward to all of the communities that helped and supported me in my education journey by either teaching or providing programing in these communities.

NRT | Undergraduate



Lindsay Pierre
Katzie First Nation

Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Bachelor of Arts - Criminology

Hello I am Lindsay Pierre of Katzie First Nation. I live with my sister, her 4 kids, and 3 dogs. I am completing my Bachelors degree in Criminology with a minor in Indigenous Community Justice. I want to use my education to go to law school to find a legal career helping Indigenous people and communities.



Lois Yeomans
Old Masset Village Council

University of British Columbia
Bachelor of Education

Hello, My name is Lois Yeomans. I am Tsimshian from Kitselas, Gitaus, and Haida from Old Masset. I am a mother of two children who are my daily inspiration. I am currently entering my final year at the University of British Columbia pursuing a bachelor's in Education through the NITEP program. I am very honored and grateful to New Relationship Trust for the award.

> "I hope to work with children fighting cancer. When I was younger I attended cancer treatments with an ailing friend and the people helping my friend impressed me so much that I decided that I wanted to take a path towards helping children. Thank you NRTF for aiding my education goals.
>
> — Olivia Michalsky



Llana Teichroeb
Westbank First Nation

University of British Columbia - Okanagan
Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Language Fluency

My name is Llana Teichroeb, and I am from Westbank First Nation. I am in my third year of the Bachelor of nsyilxcən Language Fluency at the University of British Columbia. My qaqna (grandma) was a survivor of residential school. Her voice, and her language, like so many others was taken. My goal is contribute to language revitalization. I want my children, my grandchildren and my nation to know the language and culture of our ancestors. Most of all, I want to reclaim my qaqna's voice. I am very grateful for this award. Without it, my language revitalization journey would be much more difficult. limləmt/ thank you.



Olivia Michalsky
Blueberry River First Nation

Western University
Bachelor of Kinesiology

Hi, I am Olivia Michalsky a member of the Blueberry River First Nation. I am working on my Kinesiology degree and have plans on continuing with my masters and becoming a physician's assistant. I hope to work with children fighting cancer. When I was younger I attended cancer treatments with an ailing friend and the people helping my friend impressed me so much that I decided that I wanted to take a path towards helping children. Thank you NRTF for aiding my education goals.

NRT | Undergraduate



Rain Thomas
Snuneymuxw First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Indigenous Language Proficiency Diploma

'ii ch 'uw' 'uy' 'ul' si'em'? 'een'thu 'p'e' yuwunat/ snuneymuxw. Shirley Frenchie is my English name. tun'ni tsun 'utl' snuneymuxw. I am in the process of achieving my Bachelor of Arts in our Coast Salish -hul'q'umi'num' language. Being the youngest of eleven children and the first one to enter into university from my family- I am proud to maintain our culture and language by teaching our hul'q'umi'num' language and snu' 'uy'ulh (sacred) teachings. I will also be honoring my bloodline: my Grandparents and Parents were fluent speakers- until now: the hul'q'umi'num' language is coming back to my dad- who had it beat out of him in residential school when he was seven years old. He is eighty-nine- today. He said it is coming back to him by listening to us student's, Elder's and Teacher's on zoom everyday. I am following in the foot steps of my late mom- she was a fluent and well respected individual who had a passion to enlighten, teach, share and show compassion for every human being in the natural world with unconditional love and respect. Her spirituality complimented her mental and physical being – she was one with nature- at all times!



Rayn Cook-Thomas
Songhees First Nation

York University
Bachelor of Fine Arts (Hons) - Dance

Rayn Cook-Thomas is an emerging Kwakwaka'wakw artist who specializes in contemporary dance and choreography. Rayn was born on Vancouver Island, the homelands of his people (the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuu-chah-nulth, and Lekwungen) and he now trains in the Performance and Choreography BFA dance program at York University. Rayn was the recipient of the Ivy McGeachie Award for Young Choreographers in 2019 for his work The Picker, which in 2020, won the Inspired Dance Film Festival Schools Division in Australia. His newest work, Ancestor 74, was part of an Artist-In-Residency at the Victoria High School Dance Department and appeared in the CBA Aboriginal Law Symposium which featured The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould; this piece is now being remounted for its final revival with the York Dance Ensemble. Rayn will continue to develop the mixing of Indigenous storytelling and contemporary dance in the choreography program at York University. Persistent in his training in contemporary and ballet and performing with the York Dance Ensemble, Rayn continues to enrich his knowledge through Kwakwaka'wakw cultural experiences in his community.



Owen Harris

Gitwangak Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Urban Forestry

My name is Daniel Harris, and it is with great respect, humility, and love that I call Haida Gwaii my home. I am of Cree and Gitxsan descent. My motivation to study forestry stems from the needs of my community and the duty I have to the natural world. I seek to repair the nature-human relationship and build community through creating an environment that supports the mind, body, and spirit of our people. I am interested in outdoor education, health and well-being, ecological restoration, climate change communication and how we as humans can reconnect with nature. As a young indigenous academic, I have been taught to hold my culture and traditional values close in all that I do.



Ruth Speck

Musqueam Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education

ʔi ʔə ce:p ʔəw ʔeləy̓ ʔaɬ̓. Ruthie Speck ḵ ʷə nə skʷix, təniʔ cən ʔə ƛ̓ xʷməθkʷəy̓əm. I am entering my fourth year at UBC after completing a specialization in Indigenous Education through NITEP as well as my Social Sciences requirements. I am taking this year to complete my English requirements before entering the teaching professional year in 2023 to become a high school English and Social Studies teacher. After I complete my degree, I plan to develop a həńq̓əmiń əm̓ curriculum for high schools. Throughout my studies thus far I have realized that I firmly believe in holistic, and anti-hierarchical education grounded within Indigenous ways of knowing and being. If it weren't for the support of my community and financial support through scholarships like NRTF I wouldn't have made it this far. Thank you. cəy̓əθaməcən.



Richard Shaw

Cowichan Tribes

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Arts

My name is Richard Shaw, and I am a member of Cowichan tribes and part Ditidaht. I am going into the first year of my Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Victoria and I am majoring in Indigenous Studies to gain knowledge about Indigenous history and current issues Indigenous people are facing. My goal is to obtain a law degree from either UBC or UVIC so I can help not only my community but other Indigenous communities with any injustices they may be facing.



Samantha Beynon

Gingolx

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Education

My name is Samantha Beynon. I have been a visitor on the unceded territory of the Lekwungen and W̱ SÁNEĆ peoples and have called Victoria my home for the past nine years. I come from the Nisga'a Nation. I am a mother of two and I am currently finishing the Bachelor of Education program at Vancouver Island University. I am in my final fifth year of my program and my hopes are to be the best educator for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.



Scarlett Sparrow-Felix

Musqueam Indian Band

Capilano University

Motion Picture Arts

My name is Scarlett Sparrow-Felix, and I am currently attending Capilano University's Motion Picture Arts School in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program, 2022–2026. I was born and raised on the Musqueam First Nation in Vancouver, BC. In my downtime, I enjoy playing guitar, playing and watching soccer, and going to concerts. Film making is how I express my artistic self and I believe offering an Indigenous perspective is very valuable, especially since a perspective from the Salish People of Musqueam has never been represented on the silver screen. We are in a new era going through a transformation and as we move forward, we must maintain our identity and apply our traditions in a modern context. Having taken Film and Television previously at my high school for three years, I have learned how to tell a cohesive story. I've acquired the valuable skills of working behind the camera and leading a large crew in long after-school shoots and I am looking forward to deepening my knowledge and understanding of film making at CapU. I expect to write, produce, direct, and edit new and exciting films with the goal of becoming a director of Photography. Thank you for this opportunity!

> "I believe offering an Indigenous perspective is very valuable, especially since a perspective from the Salish People of Musqueam has never been represented on the silver screen.
>
> **— Scarlett Sparrow-Felix**



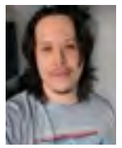
Serena Smith

Skidegate Band Council

Simon Fraser University

Bachelor of Arts - International Studies

Haaw'aa, thank you so much to the NRT Foundation for this generous scholarship. My Haida name is Gaawée Jaad, I'm from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii but living in Vancouver to study at SFU. I'm studying international relations and interested in Indigenous inherent rights and title. My dream after I get my bachelor's degree is to get into human rights work and travel the world, then eventually coming home to contribute to our communities with what I've learned. The NRT Foundation is helping me work towards my goals, making my dream more visible.
The support means a lot to me, and I will continue working hard for our Indigenous people.



Shadyn Alphonse

Tl'etinqox Government

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Arts

My name is Shadyn Alphonse, I am Tsilhqot'in (Chilcotin) and Nehiyawewin (Cree) from Tl'etinqox (Anaham). I am a first-generation Residential School and Sixties Scoop survivor. I find healing and understanding through education. De-colonizing and indigenizing the curriculum has been my approach to education and has been key to my success. As Indigenous people we have a wealth of knowledge that is valuable and precious. Education is a powerful tool I use to better under-stand myself and the world. Education is a conduit that Indigenous people can use to make their voices heard and understood by all people. I would like to support and promote healing, education, and identity to all Indigenous people and communities.



Shanyce Costain

T'Sou-ke Nation

University of Victoria

Bachelor of Education

My name is Shanyce Costain, I am from Sooke BC, T'Sou- ke Nation, and I am entering my first year of the Education program at UVic. I started in the Child and Youth Care program at UVic last year, but I decided to switch my program as this BEd program aligns more with my career goals. I hope to graduate and begin working as an elementary teacher, preferably kindergarten. My teachers were always my inspirations and strong influences growing up, so I hope to be the same for my future students.



Tatyana Schneider

Samahquam

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Urban Forestry

Hello, my name is leqsaylths in Ucwalmicw, and my Canadian name is Tayana Schneider. I am originally from Prince George, BC but have lived on the coast now for over thirteen years. At UBC, I have been lucky to meet with Robert Kozak, Susan Day, and Teresa Ryan to discuss how to "Indigenize" the urban forestry degree. This has motivated me to work diligently on my studies so I can blaze a new trail in this program, showing other Indigenous students that we can find ways to attain the education we desire, even when the path seems different than the one you originally set out on. The multidisciplinary nature of this degree will afford me a future where I can be of service to the land and my nation, while also being able to provide for myself in many different settings. It is my goal to take what I learn back to my nation so we can start preparing our community for how climate change will affect our traditional foods and energy capabilities.



Sydney Parnell

Old Masset Village Council

University of British Columbia - Okanagan

Bachelor of Management

My name is Sydney Parnell, and I am Haida from Old Masset, Haida Gwaii. I am entering my 3rd year of studying in the Bachelor of Management program at UBC Okanagan. Once I complete my undergraduate degree, I will do the CPA Professional Education Program to reach my goal of pursuing a career as an accountant. I am very excited to continue my education journey towards becoming an accountant.



Tianna Frost

Tl'etinqox Government

Thompson Rivers University

Bachelor of Education

My name is Tianna Frost, and I am a Tl'etinqox Government band member. I am currently enrolled in TRU's Bachelor of Education and am completing my 2nd year. I have a passion for teaching and helping others and cannot wait to give back to the community by working as a teacher.



Trinity Gladstone

Skidegate Band Council

Queen's University

Bachelor of Arts - Political Studies

My name is Trinity Gladstone, and I am a member of the Haida Nation. I am so honoured to receive support throughout my undergraduate degree. NRT has become an important support system for many students, and for that we say thank you.



Violet Cross

Skidegate Band Council

Trinity Western University

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) - Leadership

Hello, my name is Violet I'm Haida /Italian from Skidegate Haida Gwaii. I'm currently in an honors Global Leadership degree program. I plan to work in management for one of many lucrative companies that are actively recruiting within my program. We must all strive to build bigger and brighter futures for our children and all generations to come.



Xiila-T'aayii Guujaaw

Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Arts

My name is Xiila-T'aayii Guujaaw. I am a Haida Woman born and raised in Skidegate surrounded by the most supportive and amazing community. I plan on bringing all the education I receive back into my community. My goal is to inspire at least one other young Indigenous youth to go follow their dreams and support them in any way possible.



Zoe Leech

T'ít'q'et

Vancouver Island University

Bachelor of Natural Resource Protection

Kukwstumulkkacw! This in my language (st'at'imcets) means 'you saved us'. This award is a life saver! Thank you so much. My name is Zoe Leech, I am from the T'ít'q'et band, and I am in my 3rd year of a Resource Protection Degree minoring in Indigenous Studies. I am dedicating to applying Indigenous practices and beliefs to resource management techniques to protect the earth so that we all may reconnect and learn to live in harmony once again with nature. This award helps me on my path so that I may help others. Thank you again, kukwstumulkkacw!



Zoey Collinson

Skidegate Band Council

University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Education

My name is Zoey Collinson, I am from Haida Gwaii where I have lived my entire life. I have a strong connection to my community and have always had a passion for learning and being active. I grew up watching basketball and playing with my village team. My goals are to complete my bachelor's in education and return home to be a teacher in my community and coach basketball. I hope to influence my community in a positive way and infuse Indigenous ways of knowing into the education system. I am currently attending the University of British Columbia and working towards my degree.



Cheri Brown

Laxgalt'sap

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 traditional lands from time immemorial. Our family line is Gisk'aast and Wilp Nissyu'us, Killer Whale clan and House of Nissyu'us. I am an MA student at UNBC in the First Nations Studies department. I study Indigenous post-secondary education attainment and student lived experience. I am passionate about increasing education attainment and opportunities for Indigenous students while also working toward the broader goal of social justice and equitable treatment of Indigenous peoples and culture in Canada. My current research explores how Indigenous post-secondary students mobilize social support and strategies to navigate the university experience including through acts of resistance and the significance of alignment with culture and identity.



Janice Wilson

Metlakatla Band

Vancouver Island University

Master of Education - Educational Leadership

My name is Janice Wilson. I grew up in Prince Rupert and I am T'simpsian and Nisga'a. I am the granddaughter of a residential school survivor and I believe education is a big part of the journey to healing, learning and growing from the wrongs that were, and continue to be, done to Indigenous people. Currently, I am an Indigenous Education teacher as well as a hul'qumi'num language teacher at the elementary school level. With the completion of my master's degree from VIU, a future goal I have is to obtain a PhD. I would love to return to VIU as an Indigenous Educator. Or alternately, obtain a role in a leadership position as an advocate for Indigenous students within BC.

NRT | Masters



Jeremiah Laity

Tla'amin Nation

Trinity Western University

Master of Arts - Interdisciplinary Humanities

I was born and raised in Maple Ridge, BC to a long-time dairy farming family. My Indigenous ancestry comes from my mother's side and growing up I was fortunate to hear many stories from my grandma and great grandma about where my family comes from and why that's important to us. I've been interested in history since I was a young child, first with British history, then family history, and now Canadian and Indigenous history. I completed my undergraduate degree in 2020, just as the pandemic was beginning, and was excited to return to a subject that I'm passionate about by beginning a graduate degree in history last fall at Trinity Western University. The choice to pursue history, for me, was a continuation of a life-long love and interest, and a chance to explore serious academic studies in an area that really interests me. I would eventually also like to write about and teach this subject, and perhaps pursue a PhD after graduation.

"I completed my undergraduate degree in 2020, just as the pandemic was beginning, and was excited to return to a subject that I'm passionate about by beginning a graduate degree in history last fall at Trinity Western University. The choice to pursue history, for me, was a continuation of a life-long love and interest, and a chance to explore serious academic studies in an area that really interests me.

— Jeremiah Laity



Kasey Stirling

Lower Nicola Indian Band

University of British Colombia

Master of Science - Oceans and Fisheries

ʔéx kʷ ɲ̓ & pusu'l (hello), my name is Kasey Stirling, and I am Nlaka'pamux, Mi'kmaq, and Acadienne. I am a status member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band in Merritt, BC. I am from Williams Lake, the traditional territory of the T'exelcemc Nation (Williams Lake Indian Band, Secwepemc Peoples). Throughout my life, I have walked between both worlds: Western and academic science, and Indigenous traditional knowledge. Balancing these pedagogies and developing a framework whereby they complement each other has been a focus of many Indigenous researchers. I intend to learn from what these researchers have developed and apply this balanced approach to my research with supervision from Dr. Andrea Reid. This is a topic I explored with other Indigenous biochemistry students during the 2018 Summer Internship for Indigenous Students in Genomics Canada (SING Canada) internship. I was also able to develop my own sense of this balanced framework by working as a teacher naturalist at the Scout Island Nature Centre in Williams Lake by teaching children through nature education. It is 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.



Krystal McKay

Nak’azdli Whut’en Band

Thompson Rivers University

Juris Doctor

Krystal McKay is from Nak’Azdli Whuten First Nation, grew up in Chilliwack, currently calls Kamloops home and is a humble guest in beautiful Secwepemcul’ecw. Krystal is a 3rd year law student at Thompson Rivers University. After more than a decade working in law firms, with her young son now attending school, and together with her husband, Krystal decided that the opportunities with a law degree were endless. As the story goes, all the stars aligned to make a dream become a reality and Krystal now finds herself attending school, raising her son and enjoying all that the outdoor activities the British Columbia Interior has to offer. During her down time, Krystal enjoys camping, fishing, boating, and kayaking and you will often find Krystal with a beach chair, book and coffee beside a lake or river. Krystal intends to use her life experience and knowledge in the field of law upon graduation with the continued hope of making a difference in people’s lives. If you asked Krystal where she will end up in the coming years, the answer will be wherever the stars align.



Levi Gordian

‘Namgis First Nation

University of British Columbia

Juris Doctor

My name is Levi Gordian, and I am Kwakwaka’wakw from the ‘Namgis First Nation. I am currently a second-year JD student at UBC in the Allard School of Law. With this degree, I believe that I can contribute to making a positive impact on the lives of Indigenous peoples and their communities through sustainable economic development.



Lisa Orton

Adams Lake Indian Band

Simon Fraser University

Master of Arts - Linguistics

My name is Lisa Orton, and I am Secwepemc from Adams Lake Band. I am working on a Master of Arts in Linguistics focusing on my language - Secwepemctsin. I completed my Bachelor of Arts at Simon Fraser University. I then moved back to my community to learn my language and complete a Secwepemc Language Immersion Diploma. I am continuing my language learning journey in a graduate Linguistics program and will continue learning and contributing to the revitalization of my language.

> “After more than a decade working in law firms, with her young son now attending school, and together with her husband, Krystal decided that the opportunities with a law degree were endless. As the story goes, all the stars aligned to make a dream become a reality and Krystal now finds herself attending school, raising her son and enjoying all that the outdoor activities the British Columbia Interior has to offer.
>
> **— Krystal McKay**

NRT | Masters



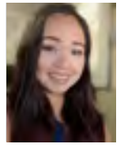
Shayla Praud

Laxgalt’sap

University of Victoria

Juris Doctor

Shayla Praud - LAXGALTS’AP VILLAGE GOVERNMENT. Juris Doctor and Juris Indigenarium Doctor (JD/JID) University of Victoria. My name is Shayla, and I was born and raised on Vancouver Island. I am a member of Eagle Clan from the Nisga’a village of Laxgalts’ap through my mom’s side and am of French descent through my dad’s side. I am entering my fourth and final year of the joint degree program in Canadian common law and Indigenous legal orders at UVIC. I am passionate about contributing to the advocacy of Indigenous women in the legal profession and look forward to using my degree to work with Nations in the pursuit of self-government, sovereignty, economic development, justice, and their own goals and objectives in what is now known as Canada.



Tara-Lynn Wilson

Haisla Nation

Thompson Rivers University

Juris Doctor

Tara-Lynn is Xen’ak’siala from Kitlope BC and Secwépemc from Stuctuws BC. Tara-Lynn is entering her 2nd year of the Juris Doctor Program at TRU Law with an interest in Aboriginal and Criminal law. Tara-Lynn has her Bachelor of Arts with a major in Psychology and minor concentration in Anthropology, as well as a certificate in Aboriginal studies. In the future she plans on getting her master’s in law, and one day hopes to become a judge. Tara-Lynn wants to incite change in the legal community by bringing awareness to Indigenous issues and improve Indigenous rights. Tara-Lynn’s overall goal for the future is to make Canada a better place to live for her nieces and nephews. I am thankful for the assistance provided by the NRT Foundation for my education. I will forever be grateful to you all.



Tara-Lynn Bell

Osoyoos Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Juris Doctor

My name is Terri Bell, and I was born and raised in the Syilx territory. I am in my final year of law school at the Peter A. Allard School of Law. My goal is to work at an Indigenous-led law firm committed to advancing Indigenous self-determination. I am excited to make a meaningful contribution by working to advance Indigenous community-driven strategies related to inherent rights.

> “Tara-Lynn wants to incite change in the legal community by bringing awareness to Indigenous issues and improve Indigenous rights. Tara-Lynn’s overall goal for the future is to make Canada a better place to live for her nieces and nephews. I am thankful for the assistance provided by the NRT Foundation for my education. I will forever be grateful to you all.
>
> **— Tara-Lynn Wilson**



Tracey White

Snuneymuxw First Nation

Simon Fraser University
Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Languages and Linguistics

aaa sii'em 'i' sii'em nu sulxwaan 'i' sii'em nu sii'ye'ye, 'i' sii'em nu shqwalaqwa! 'een'thu p'e' Tsatassaya. Tracey White tu nu s-hwunitum'alh nu skwish. tun'ni tsun 'utl Snuneymuxw 'i' Hupacasath. Tsatassaya White is a graduate student in the Masters in Linguistics of hul'q'umi'num' language at Simon Fraser University. She also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology from UBC. Tsatassaya is a member of the White family from the Snuneymuxw First Nation and also holds the name Teniso from Takiishtakamlt (Earthquake House) from the Hamilton family in Hupacasath. Along with her passion for learning the hul'q'umi'num' language, Tsatassaya is also a curator, event producer and community mobilizer. She carries cultural knowledge, roots her work in traditional protocols and believes that language revitalization is the key to healing and moving forward with Nation Building. "Huy' tseep q'u to New Relationship Trust in supporting my educational goals. It is with immense joy and pride that I am able to carry on the linguistics work of my late grandmother Kwulasulwut Dr. Ellen White and all of the Elders who made sure to leave us with their voices and legacy in order to revitalize and ensure the survival of our precious hul'q'umi'num language."



Valarie Johnson

Esk'etemc

University of British Columbia
Master of Arts - Curriculum Studies

Valarie Johnson ren skwest, Te Esket ell Tsq'éscen re sx̌ 7é7kwen. Secwepemc-ken. Edward Johnson-sen kúkwpi7 ren qé7tse. Greta Johnson nee Daniels ren kí7ce.Valarie graduated with a B.Ed. specializing in Indigenous knowledge from UBC-Vancouver in 2021, where she was awarded the Donald and Ellen Poulter Scholarship and Rob Gray Memorial Award. Following graduation, Valarie taught Secwepemcstin with SD#27. Currently, Valarie is an MA Curriculum Studies student, and a graduate research assistant (GRA) with the Indigenous Math Network at UBC. Valarie's focus as an MA candidate is to develop a curriculum that nurtures and reflects the identity of her local Secwepemc culture and language. Valarie values a multidimensional teaching approach that incorporates a two-eyed seeing perspective, as she believes the tmic (land) is pedagogy.

NRT | Masters



Wynona Edwards

Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation

Thompson Rivers University
Master of Arts - Human Rights and Social Justice

I am from Ts'kw'aylaxw First Nation of the St'át'imc people. Although I was born and raised in the Tk'emlúps to Secwépemc territory, within the unceded tradition lands of the Secwépemc Nation in BC. I am currently in her first year of the Master of Arts in Human Rights and Social Justice program at Thompson Rivers University. I have achieved a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Visual Arts Diploma, Aboriginal Studies Certificate and a Human service Diploma. I am a single mother to one daughter who is now a teen. I love learning new things, and I do my best to hold onto cultural traditional ways. I love attending ceremonies, singing and dancing powwow. I grew up travelling the powwow trail, attending different powwows and round dances across BC, Alberta and the United States. When I am done school, I want to pursue a carrier working at the University level creating pathways to further Indigenization.



Zoe Verlaan

Spuzzum First Nation

University of Victoria
Master of Arts - Political Science

Zoe Verlaan (she/her) is Nlaka'pamux from the Spuzzum First Nation but grew up in Secwepemc territory of the Splatsin First Nation (Enderby). I am currently completing a Master of Arts in Political Science at the University of Victoria on the territories of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples of the Songhees, Esquimalt, and W̱SÁNEĆ First Nations but, recently, I have moved to the unceded territories of the Sḵwx̱ wú7mesh and səl̓ilwətaʔɬ təməxʷ (Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, Vancouver). I am interested in relationships in spaces of decolonization, resurgence, and solidarity, where I am doing close textual readings of poetry and speculative fiction by Indigenous writers that hold space for love, grief, and Indigenous futurities. I also work in spaces of Indigenous health and community support/engagement, where I bring a unique lens to anti-oppressive and anti-racism work.



Alexa Manuel

Upper Nicola Indian Band

University of British Columbia

Doctor of Philosophy - English

i skwist capqwicya, kn Syilx nalh St'át'imc. My name is Alexa capqwicya Manuel, and I Syilx and St'át'imc from the areas of Lillooet and Merritt. My Bachelor of Arts in English Literature emerged from Thompson Rivers University, and my Master of Arts (also in English Literature) came from the University of British Columbia Okanagan (UBCO). I'm a PhD candidate in English Literature at UBC in Vancouver, with research focusing on Syilx Literatures, Indigenous feminisms and gender and sexuality studies. Besides my academic work, I also partake in beading, embroidery, knitting, and crochet. Uy Skweyul!



Emily Salmon

Cowichan Tribes

University of Victoria

Doctor of Philosophy - International Management

My name is Emily Salmon, and I am a proud Cowichan Tribes member, and am currently enrolled in my fifth and final year of my Ph.D. in International Management at the University of Victoria. My late father was a residential school survivor and often spoke of the value of education, while also acknowledging that schools were not always welcoming or safe places for our people. Therefore, part of my educational journey has focused on making business schools more inclusive of Indigenous Peoples and perspectives and ensuring students feel seen, included, and safe. After graduation, my goal is to secure a tenure-track faculty position at a research institution and continue my research that advocates for Indigenous sovereignty and self-determination in decisions related to their territories. Thank you so much New Relationship Trust Foundation for your support. Your financial commitment to Indigenous students allows us to reduce the financial stress of post-secondary education, spend additional time and reconnect with our families, and focus on our academic studies. Huy ch qu'!

NRT | Doctorate



Jason Morgan

Gitwangak Band Council

Western University

Doctor of Philosophy - Educational Leadership

My hereditary name is Am-bax-gxan and I belong to house of 'Wii Muk'wilixw. My home communities are Ans'Payaxw (Kispiox, B.C.) and a registered Band member of Gitwangak (Kitwanga, B.C.). I am currently pursuing my Ph.D. in Educational Leadership at Western University, London, Ontario. I am a strong advocate of supporting Indigenous communities to build their capacities and institutional development. As Indigenous leaders we are not only challenged in working to improve community life, but how to preserve a distinctive nationhood by governing ourselves that is premised on our values, culture and Indigenous laws. Moving forward, we must see the emphasis of culture, decolonization, reconciliation, and rebuilding our Nation's institutional capacity. "Commitment to life-long learning is a journey and continue to set your personal goals one step at a time. Thank you NRT for this wonderful opportunity."



Skye Augustine

Stz'uminus First Nation

Simon Fraser University

Doctor of Philosophy - Resource and Environmental Management

My name is Skye Augustine and I'm from the Stz'uminus First Nation. I grew up in the Cowichan Valley and now live in Victoria. I am finishing my PhD in Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University where I research Coast Salish clam garden restoration. I am passionate about enacting Indigenous sovereignty by reclaiming our connections to our lands and waters. I hope to continue working with coastal Nations to revitalize ancestral food systems and enact Indigenous land stewardship. Thank you to the New Relationship Trust for this investment in my education at such a critical time in my degree.



Spencer Greening

Gitga'at Nation

Simon Fraser University

Doctorate of Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies

Spencer Greening (La'goot) is from the Tsimshian community of the Gitga'at First Nation (Hartley Bay). Spencer is currently a PhD student in the Faculty of Environment at Simon Fraser University, where he is studying the relationship between Gitga'at Traditional Ecological Knowledge, language, and deep-time archaeological history in the context of Indigenous resource management. He has worked professionally within his nation for many years, having previously sat on elected leadership council, and regularly engaging in government-to-government relations. All of his work revolves around his deep connection to his home community, elders, territories, and the self-determination and decolonization of Indigenous peoples. His broader research interests include Indigenous governance and legal systems, Indigenous harvesting and ecosystem management, cultural and political identities, and Indigenous oral histories. He continues to be actively engaged with cultural roles and work within the community of Hartley Bay and the greater Tsimshian Nation, while finding his own voice within academia.



I am Kaitlyn Cunningham from Katzie First Nation. I am a student as well as a teacher. My main goal for the last decade has been to help to revitalize our language, the downriver dialect of hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓.

Kaitlyn Cunningham
FNHA Bursary Recipient

Bio on page 80



My name is Xiila-T’aayii Guujaaw. I am a Haida Woman born and raised in Skidegate surrounded by the most supportive and amazing community. I plan on bringing all the education I receive back into my community. My goal is to inspire at least one other young Indigenous youth to go follow their dreams and support them in any way possible.

Xiila-T’aayii Guujaaw
NRT Scholarship Recipient

Bio on page 105

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 education 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 and 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 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

New Relationship Trust Foundation is a registered Canadian charity.



My name is Levi Gordian, and I am Kwakwaka'wakw from the 'Namgis First Nation. I am currently a second-year JD student at UBC in the Allard School of Law. With this degree, I believe that I can contribute to making a positive impact on the lives of Indigenous peoples and their communities through sustainable economic development.

Levi Gordian
NRT Scholarship Recipient

Bio on page 108





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

Kalhwa7alap Nsnekwnúkwa7 SKirsten nskwátsitsa T'ít'q'etmeckan. (Hello, friends/relatives/people, my name is Kirsten I grew up in the T'ít'q'et community which is adjacent to the town of Lillooet, BC. T'ít'q'et is one of 11 communities that is part of the St'át'imc Nation. My traditional name is Qwezqwazízken (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).

GET IN TOUCH WITH KIRSTEN
You can find my online portfolio at krstndesign.com
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!



3188 Alder Court
North Vancouver, BC V7H 2V6

Tel: (604) 925-3338
Toll-free: (877) 922-3338
Fax: (604) 925-3348

www.nrtf.ca