



# INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



NEW  
RELATIONSHIP  
TRUST



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**CARVE  
OUT YOUR  
FUTURE**

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NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST  
FOUNDATION

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

2016-17 SCHOLARSHIP  
AND BURSARY AWARD  
RECIPIENTS



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

## Letter from the Chairs & CEO

On behalf of the New Relationship Trust Foundation and our partner organizations, we are pleased to present the 2016-17 Scholarship and Bursary Recipient Brochure.

This worthwhile initiative continues to grow each year; in 2016 we supported 247 students, the highest number to date. Within this brochure, we are proud to showcase the people who received a scholarship or bursary as they endeavor to complete their post-secondary studies. Hailing from communities throughout the province, recipients are pursuing their educational and career dreams, be they via a trades certificate, PhD or everything in between.

The increase in awards granted this year is possible thanks to support from new partners. In 2016 we welcomed on board as donors Aboriginal Energy Solutions, Chief Joe Mathias Foundation, Connor, Clark and Lunn Foundation and Drillwell Enterprises. These new sponsors joined the NRT Foundation and our existing partners: First Nations Health Authority, BC Hydro, Canfor, Scotiabank and Peace Hills Trust. We are grateful to the growing number of organizations who see the value in First Nations education. Together we are supporting hundreds of people to create better lives for themselves and their families, as well as to positively impact their communities.

Of course one of the greatest benefits of the Scholarship and Bursary initiative is that it is helping to create a skilled workforce of First Nations people in a variety of fields. And to close the loop of support, we now make our student database available to sponsors who have positions to fill in order that they may hire a qualified First Nations person.

As we publish this brochure we are getting ready to announce funding for the 2017-18 school year and we expect, once again, to receive an overwhelming request for support. We hope to continue to increase partner funding and to grow this important initiative this year and for many to come.

Respectfully,

Judith Sayers  
Chair, New Relationship Trust Foundation

Hugh Braker  
Chair, New Relationship Trust

Cliff Fregin  
CEO, New Relationship Trust



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# TURN PASSION INTO VOCATION

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## About the New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRT Foundation)

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

The New Relationship Trust Foundation is the largest Indigenous-run education charity in British Columbia. Since 2008, the NRT Foundation has awarded 1,717 scholarships and bursaries totaling \$7.9 million in post-secondary financial aid. By investing in First Nations post-secondary education, the NRT Foundation is building the capacity of First Nations, enhancing employment opportunities for graduates, and creating the skilled work force that will enable British Columbia to meet its future economic and social development needs.

The dual 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 youth education.

The Foundation is overseen by a Board of four Directors.

## About the New Relationship Trust (NRT)

**MISSION: INVESTING IN FIRST NATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.**

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

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

## Scholarships and Bursaries

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

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

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

1,717 education grants have been awarded to students at all levels of post-secondary education.

## Recipient Database

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

## Awards to Date

	BURSARIES	UNDERGRAD	MASTERS	DOCTORATE	CHIEF JOE MATHIAS	TOTAL
2007/08	-	65	23	8	-	96
2008/09	58	51	16	13	27	165
2009/10	60	42	21	10	27	160
2010/11	59	42	23	11	17	152
2011/12	66	44	22	9	18	159
2012/13	113	40	15	9	17	194
2013/14	92	41	16	9	18	176
2014/15	93	51	14	8	-	166
2015/16	105	69	21	9	-	204
2016/17	124	82	17	14	8	245
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,717</b>

## Funding

To date, the NRT Foundation and its partners have contributed more than \$7.9 million to support the post-secondary education of First Nations people in BC.

## Funds Leveraged

	GOLF TOURNAMENT	PARTNER FUNDS	TOTAL
2011	\$16,452	-	\$16,452
2012	\$17,451	\$260,000	\$277,451
2013	\$18,737	\$337,000	\$355,737
2014	\$26,188	\$246,100	\$272,288
2015	\$31,911	\$485,100	\$517,011
2016	\$30,970	\$590,050	\$621,020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$141,709</b>	<b>\$1,918,250</b>	<b>\$2,059,959</b>



## 2017 GOLF TOURNAMENT AUGUST 3, 2017

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

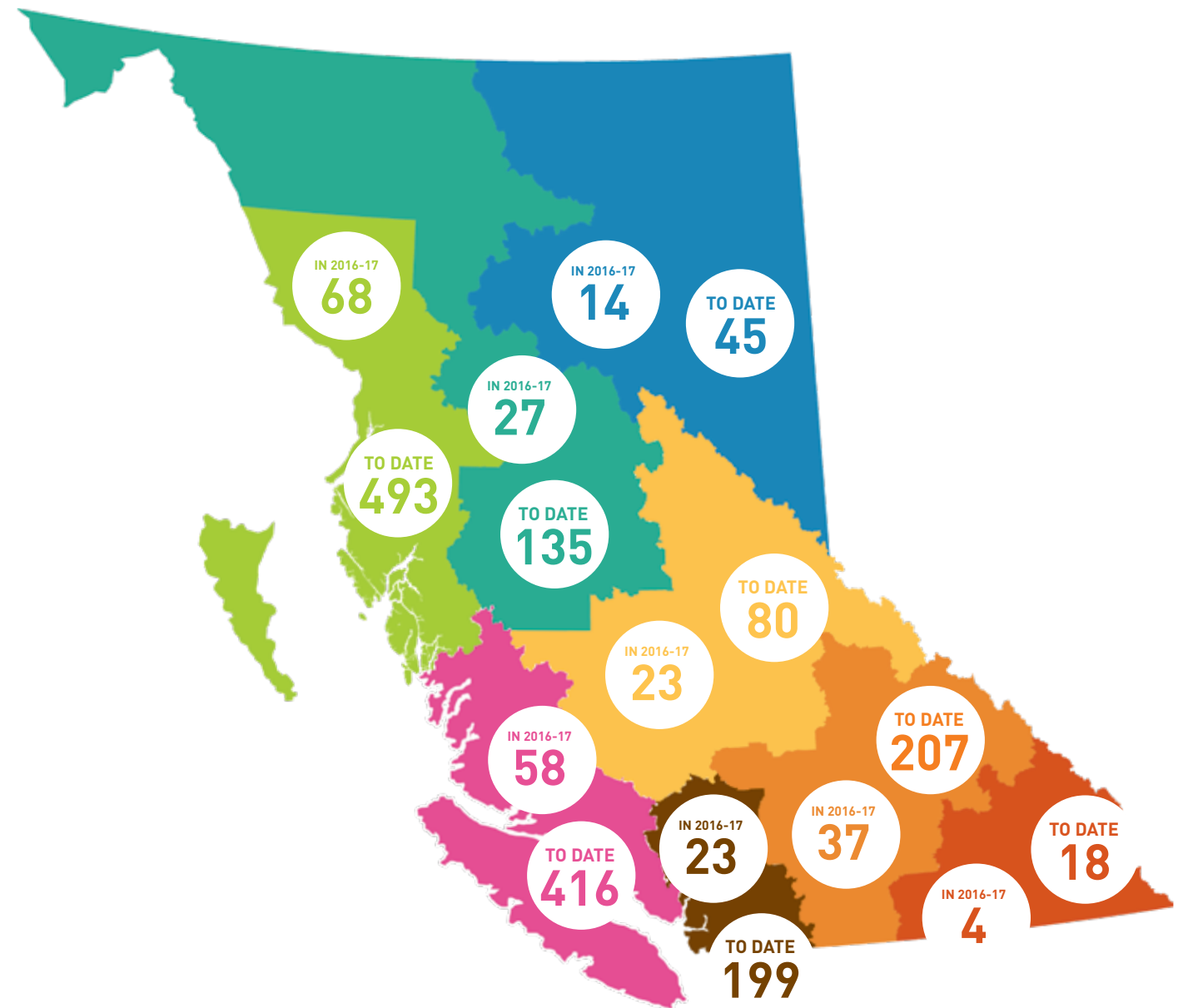
To learn more, visit [nrtgolf.ca](http://nrtgolf.ca) or contact Matthew Cook-Contois at (604) 925-3338 or [mcookcontois@nrtf.ca](mailto:mcookcontois@nrtf.ca).



# RISE TO THE TOP

## Where the Funding Goes

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



## Partners Make It Happen

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

NRT Foundation is seeking additional industry partners to build mutually beneficial partnerships that build capacity through investment in education for BC First Nations. Each partnership is tailored to meet the needs of potential funding partners. Together, we are doing something great. For information on partnering opportunities, contact the NRT Foundation at (604) 925-3338.

## Our Partners



First Nations Health Authority

### FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY

37 Bursaries, 20 Undergrad, 4 Masters, 8 Doctorate

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is a health service delivery organization, created and mandated to support and elevate BC First Nations health outcomes through the creation of an effective health care system. Since its inception, the FNHA has been working to increase the number and retention of First Nations people in health careers. Education is a key factor in achieving these goals. With a vision of healthy, self-determining and vibrant children, families and communities, FNHA has chosen to partner with the New Relationship Trust Foundation to encourage First Nations people to explore exciting career opportunities in the health field.

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

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



### BC HYDRO

10 Bursaries, 8 Undergrad, 1 Special Undergrad

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



### CHIEF JOE MATHIAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

6 Bursaries, 3 Undergrad

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

There is no more appropriate tribute to the work of Chief Mathias than to witness the success of the aboriginal graduates and scholarship recipients presented here. First Nation doctors, businessmen and women, scientists, social workers, engineers, nurses, computer programmers, lawyers, and teachers...these are the leaders of the future who will continue his legacy and ensure a bright and prosperous future for First Nations citizens and their communities. The Chief Joe Mathias Scholarship has provided 238 scholarships to 173 students from almost 100 First Nations in BC since its inception in 2002.



### SCOTIABANK

2 Undergrad

Scotiabank is dedicated to offering specialized financial services to Aboriginal communities throughout Canada. We have been working with Aboriginal communities for the past 46 years. In fact, Scotiabank was the first bank in Canada to open an on reserve branch. We are a proud member of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, where we hold the "Gold" accomplishment for Progressive Aboriginal Relations and we are dedicated to the advancement and education of Aboriginal youth and adults. We are happy to be part of your community and are proud to demonstrate our commitment to you through progressive sponsorships, training and educational initiatives.



### CANFOR

2 Undergrad

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.



### DRILLWELL ENTERPRISES LTD.

1 Bursary

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.



### ABORIGINAL ENERGY SOLUTIONS INC.

1 Bursary

Aboriginal Energy Solution Inc. (A-ESI) is an multi-discipline Engineering, Procurement, Construction Management (EPCM) and Pre-Commissioning and Commissioning Specialists company. A-ESI has strong relationships with First Nation communities across western Canada and has various initiatives to support economic development for First Nations Communities. Our core values are based on principles of trust, honesty and integrity. We deliver first in class engineering and consulting services that results in savings for our clients. A-ESI has worked to build a team and a system of specialists that can deliver high quality Project Implementation and Execution Plans quickly and effectively.



### PEACE HILLS TRUST

1 Bursary

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



### THE CONNOR CLARK & LUNN FOUNDATION

1 Bursary

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



### NRT

74 Bursaries, 50 Undergrad, 13 Masters, 6 Doctorate

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

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





**Shade Alexis**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Okanagan College**

**Early Childhood Education Diploma**  
 As a First Nations person, I have a real desire to work with aboriginal children in my community. This love and interest in the learning and development of children was what made me become interested in becoming an Early Childhood Educator; where I will learn, and apply my knowledge in a caring, sharing manner.



**Jordan Andres**  
**KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL**  
**Grande Prairie Regional College**  
**University Transfer Science**

I plan to enjoy and take advantage of every opportunity I am given, as well as be successful in my program. My career goals are up in the air as I look into parts of the medical field as an X-Ray Technologist or Ultrasound Technologist or look into the forestry field. Both career pathways have come from past experiences that have been eye opening.



**Talia Baptiste**  
**ALEXIS CREEK FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia | Aboriginal Health & Community Administration Program**

My name is Talia Baptiste. I am a proud member of the Tsilhqot'in Nation and from the community of Tsideldel. I am a lifelong learner and understand that education is important to my community, family and for me. I would like to expand my knowledge in communication & leadership, fundamentals in administration, policy & research, information management, indigenous health & wellness, so I can help my community expand in a positive way. By going to school to gain these expertise will increase my skills and abilities in expanding my community and nation.



**Julianne Brewer**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Okanagan College | Associate of Science**

Wai, Incha esquisis Julianne Brewer, Hello I am Julie Brewer. I was born and raised on my traditional homelands of the Okanagan Indian Band. My commitment to further my education is a priority and a goal and I am currently

enrolled in the Associate of Science Degree program at Okanagan College which will bridge my studies into a Ph.D. in Biochemistry. This academic journey and success will assist me with the skills and knowledge required to work in the field of medicine in order to become self-reliant and self-sufficient for myself and my future family in years to come.



**Julianne Daniels**  
**STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATIONS**  
**Camosun College | Exercise and Wellness**

My name is Julianne Daniels and I am from Stz'uminus First Nations. I am entering my 2nd year to complete the Exercise and Wellness Diploma Program at Camosun College. I'd like to continue with the Bachelor of Sport and Fitness Leadership Program to become an Exercise Physiologist. I have a passion for helping people and would like to work with children to the elderly. My vision is to create fun programs to keep people moving and dialoguing, as well as to work for specific needs, such as dietary guidance and planning.



**Pat Derickson**  
**OKANAGAN FIRST NATION**  
**En'owkin Centre**  
**Developmental Standard Teaching Certificate**

I am of Cree and Syilx lineage born and raised in the traditional Okanagan territory. Brought up with traditional training and a love for art, my path led to the En'owkin Centre to continue my artistic journey. I am a multi media artist who is also learning the Syilx language. My desire in the future is to incorporate language in my art as well as to further the study of this beautiful language.



**Jamie Dexel**  
**NOOAITCH INDIAN BAND**  
**Native Education College**  
**Family Community Counseling Diploma**

I am a proud Nlaka'paxmux woman, living in East Van. I enjoy the challenge of post secondary education, I plan to go to NVIT to get a Bachelors of Art degree in Social Work. I see myself as a front line support worker for urban First Nations people of Vancouver. I feel that choosing this career is a life style and it is a role I am looking forward to in my life. I would

like to see more First Nations people achieve their education goals, and this is how I plan to be a support worker.



**Chelsea Dwornik**  
**CAMPBELL RIVER FIRST NATION/ WE WAI KUM**  
**Grande Prairie Regional College**  
**Perioperative Nursing Program**

My career goal has always been to work in the Operating Room. I am looking forward to still providing beside nursing care, as well as accompanying patients before and after surgery. I believe that when people come into hospital they can feel quite vulnerable, and as a nurse I have the ability to provide them with compassion and comfort. I am very excited to see where my career will take me, and am looking forward to having a fulfilling job in the Operating Room!



**Alex Elliott**  
**WILLIAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Certified dental assistant**

My name is Alex Elliot and I live in 150 Mile House, BC. I am status First Nation of the Shuswap Nation. I have lived in the care of it all my life, just like my ancestors hundreds of years before me. I am currently attending the college of New Caledonia in Prince George to become a certified dental assistant. My goal is to become a dentist.



**Ryan Elliott**  
**NUXALK FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Health Care Aid Program**

My name is Ryan Elliott and I am a proud member of the Nuxalk First Nation. I grew up in Bella Coola, a small village located on British Columbia's central coast. For the past 17 years, I have mainly resided in Vancouver, with a couple treks back to my hometown. In 2000, I received my certificate in Music Production from Trebas Institute. I have worked predominantly in the food service industry as a server. My hobbies and pastimes include thrifting, reading, shooting hoops, and playing guitar or jamming with friends.



**Mackenzie Gomez**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
**BCCE | Medical Office Administration**

After years in the financial sector, I decided I needed a change in my career. I wanted something that would accommodate my role as a full-time mother, however, still have the independence from a job. I decided to apply for a position as a Medical Office Assistant as this specific position would allow me to do both. I have previous experience working in FN health in my young adult years so I decided this was the best step for me.



**Drew Gonu**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**UA Piping Industry College of BC**  
**Welding Foundation Level C**

I, Drew Gonu, am also known as Saxdigitkw laxgibuu in Nisga'a which means Man of a War Canoe. I hail from Gitlaxtaamaiks, BC and graduated from Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School in 2012. After becoming a labourer in 2013, I realized that I needed to continue my education to gain a career in trades. I entered into trades training in 2014. I am currently enrolled in the welding foundation level C program at UA Piping Industry College of BC in Vancouver and look forward to gain employment upon my completion.



**Darryl Gray**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**General Arts**

My name is Darryl Gray. I am Ts'msyen from Lax Kw'alaams, BC, and I belong to Waap Liyaa'mlaxha, a Gisbutwada (Blackfish) House in the Gitaxangiik Tribe. I am also Oglala, Sioux, from Pine Ridge, South Dakota. I have completed my Diploma in Family Community Counseling at the Native Education College. I am continuing my educational goals this year in the Bachelors of Social Work program at Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. Each completion point in my education has reshaped my outlook on my professional goals. I hope to bring these experiences to make a positive change in my community.



**Kristen Helin**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Medical Diagnostic Sonography**  
 I was born and raised on the Northwest Coast of British Columbia, and am a member of the Tsimshian Nation. I graduated with my Bachelor of Science from UBC in 2009 and moved to Prince Rupert where I work as both a Pharmacy Assistant and Laboratory Assistant with the local hospital. I always knew I wanted to pursue a career in the medical field – my experience and exposure led me to decide on a career in Ultrasound. I will start school at BCIT this September and look forward to pursuing further educational goals.

I have always had a keen interest in the medical field, and working in the hospital thus far has been extremely rewarding – especially in a community that is very diverse and has a large First Nations population. I know it bridges a gap and helps First Nations people feel more at ease having people they can relate to and recognize. I hope to inspire other First Nations youth to work hard and continue to work towards their educational goals. I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation and First Nations Health Authority.



**Bryon Hill**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Douglas College | Sport Science**  
 I come from the Haida Nation and I am majoring in Sport Science Studies at Douglas College. Living a healthy and active lifestyle is a passion of mine, and I wish to help educate others in doing the same with their lives. I would love to start my career off as a kinesiologist and work my way up to becoming a physiotherapist and to work in communities in BC to help brighten the lives of both the youth and elderly.



**Melody Johnson**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Justice Institute of British Columbia**  
**Graduate Certificate in Complex Trauma and Child Sexual Abuse Intervention Program**  
 I am a proud mother of three beautiful daughters. In 2014 I received my Masters of Social Work degree at the University of Northern British Columbia. I am committed to ongoing professional development and maintaining competence in my professional practice. My conceptual framework includes principles of empowerment and relational connection. This is my first year of the Graduate Certificate in Complex Trauma and Child Sexual Abuse Intervention program at the Justice Institute of British Columbia. My career goal is to have a strong grounding in clinical intervention with children, adolescents, and adult survivors of complex trauma.



**Richard Johnson**  
**KWICKSUTAINIUK-AHKWAW-AH-MISH BAND**  
**Excel Career College | HealthCare Assistant**  
 My name is Richard Johnson I am 28 years old, I from the KWIKWASUT'INUXW HAXWA'MIS First Nations Band. I will soon be a Registered Health Care Assistant. Upon completion of my schooling, I am planning on working within a long term care facility to assist the elderly for 2 to 3 years, upon which time I would like to go back school and become a LPN. This would allow me to further my abilities to help people with in the long term care facilities.



**Travis Keehn**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP**  
**Discovery Community College**  
**Licensed Practical Nursing**  
 My goals so far have been to complete my program and head back to northern B.C. to work. I am hoping that I can work within the communities in Nisga'a territory. As far as my personal goals, I am planning on taking online courses while working in the north to become a life-coach on top of being an LPN. This is to broaden my scope of practice and eventually enable me to open my own business down the road. I want to be continuously learning new things and expanding my knowledge surrounding health and healthy living.



**Melissa Knott**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Social Service Diploma**  
 My name is Melissa Knott and I am a Tsimshian First Nation from Lax Kwa Alaaams BC. I am a Lax sgiik from the house of Gitando. I am currently enrolled in the 2 year Social work Diploma program. After I graduate from the Social work program I plan to do more training in Mental health and addictions and hope to become a Victim Service worker.



**Charlene Lawrence**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Langara College**  
**Associate Degree in Arts and Science**  
 I started my educational journey in recreation and have now moved over to health sciences with the end goal of working in the field of nutrition and health. I plan on getting an Associates Degree in Arts and Sciences at Langara College, then completing the Natural Nutrition Program at CSNN Vancouver. Afterwards, I hope to find work back home on Haida Gwaii helping to promote healthy living through nutrition education to all members.

I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust (NRT) & the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA).  
 Haawas (thanks)!!!!



**Rae-Ann Lawrence**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Langara College**  
**Pre-Nursing Studies**  
 My name is Rae-Ann Lawrence, I was born and raised in Vernon BC. My parents are John Lawrence, born and raised in OKIR1, and Teresa Chrapko, born and raised in Fort St. John. I started my education at Snc'c'amala?tn Early Childhood Centre. This was my first opportunity to learn, read, and speak the Okanagan language. I was a dancer at Accentz Dance Studio for 13 years, focusing in examination Ballet and Lyrical. My goals for the upcoming years are to apply to the Langara nursing program to become a Registered Nurse and specialize in psychiatry.



**Bianca Michell**  
**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Aboriginal Health and Community Administration Program**  
 My passion is to find culturally appropriate and effective methods to improve First Nations knowledge about health and wellness and diseases. My career goals and passions is to improve my skills that would benefit all First Nations. As a young First Nations woman who believes that we deserve optimum quality of health, I dedicate myself to work towards this goal.



**Aaron Mitchell**  
**OKANAGAN FIRST NATION**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Chemical Addiction Worker**  
 I am Aaron Mitchell. I am from the Okanagan Nation, living in the Okanagan, and am currently enrolled in Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, taking my second year of Chemical Addiction Worker. I am currently employed by Round Lake Treatment Centre so I am able to practice my skills and help people through their addictions, as well as learning more about addictions. I eventually want to help get more programs available for youth with addictions as it seems to be a hard thing to come by. All My Relations!



**Shannon Munro**  
**CAMPBELL RIVER FIRST NATION/ WE WAI KUM**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Magnetic Resonance Imaging**  
 I have enjoyed a career in the diagnostic imaging department at my local hospital over the last few years, and I am continuing my education in hopes that I will eventually advance in the department while expanding my knowledge. With the continuing evolvement of the medical imaging process; it is very exciting to see the advancement of this field. This career has allowed me to have a profound impact on our lifestyle as well as benefit our community by helping to deliver quality healthcare to the city of Campbell River.



**Bonnie Prince**  
**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
**College of New Caledonia Health Care Assistant Program**

My name is Bonnie Prince. I am 36 years old and I live in Fort St James, BC. I am from the Tlazten Nation Band, and I belong to the Lhtsumusyoo (Beaver) Clan. I always knew that I wanted to help people. When the HCAP was advertised, I decided to register. This program is a great way for me to experience what is involved in the Health field. My goal is to pursue this field and become a registered nurse.

This bursary from the FNHA will greatly assist me in budgeting for the first semester. Thank you for your generous support and words of encouragement.



**Skylar Richard**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Okanagan College | Science**

After I'm done with my schooling, I'm hoping to be a certified X-ray technician at the Children's Hospital in Vancouver B.C. I have been a patient at the hospital for over 18 year and it has always been a good experience. My pediatric surgeon has always inspired me to be a part of the medical community. With his continued encouragement and the support of my family, I am on the path to fulfilling my dreams.



**Cecelia Simeon**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Vancouver Community College Practical Nursing**

Cecelia is from the Haida Nation, Haida Gwaii. She is beginning her health career at Vancouver Community College, partaking in the Practical Nursing program. She discovered her interest and passion for health careers while caring for her mother, whom had a bad accident, requiring extensive care. Another key factor in joining this field is having the opportunity to provide culturally comprehensive care within First Nations communities, alongside an interest in providing compassionate care for all people.



**Kirsten Tallio**  
**NUXALK NATION**  
**Thompson Rivers University Human Services Diploma**

My name is Kirsten Tallio and I am from the Nuxalk Nation. I am in the Human Services program, laddering into the Social Work degree. I have been a Licensed Practical Nurse since 2009 and worked in Kamloops as well as my home town Bella Coola. I have loved working in the health services area but would love to be able to work with the people in my community on a more personal level. My grandmother is my inspiration and she used to always say that education was something that can never be taken from you.



**Stephanie Thompson**  
**HARTLEY BAY VILLAGE COUNCIL/GITGA'AT NATION**  
**Camosun College Practical Nursing**

The financial support of New Relationship Trust and the First Nations Health Authority has enabled me to focus my energies on my studies to enter the world of Nursing! This generosity allows me to begin my career on the right foot by lessening the burden of mounting student debt. It is my hope to return to the Northwest Coast one day, to work with the people and the community that I call home, and begin giving back to a place that has provided me with such strength and courage. I cannot express just how grateful I am for this gift!



**Sharlene Timothy**  
**KLAHOOSE AND TLA'AMIN**  
**Vancouver Community College Skin and Body Therapy**

My name is Sharlene Timothy, My ancestry is Tla'Amin and Klahoose First Nations. I am currently going to school for Skin and Body Therapy. I chose this program because I am passionate about helping people and seeing positive results. I hope to be a role model for our Aboriginal Youth. I wish to make a huge impact on many communities and to encourage youth to continue on with their education. I'd like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for not only supporting me, but believing in me, and guiding me every step of the way.



**Garry Turner**  
**PATCHEEDAHT**  
**Vancouver Community College Practical Nursing Program**

Some of my goals that I aspire to attain are to provide health advice to those around me, such as family, and friends. To add, most individuals do not advocate for themselves in scenarios where mistreatment and mistrust are an outcome of actions that may or may not be medical practice. In a personal realm, I am looking forward to the rest of my education within the program, which is a baseline of my motivation to helping those around me and clients in general. In a socioeconomic outlook, this will change for the better.



**Rose-Maria Wasnick**  
**OKANAGAN FIRST NATION**  
**Langara College | Social Work**

My name is Rose-Maria and I am a member of the Okanagan Indian Band. I am graduating in May 2017 with my diploma in social work. Afterwards, I would like to transfer to UBC or UVIC in order to obtain a masters in social work.



**Janice Wells**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALT'SAP**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology General Arts**

My name is Janice. I am single mom of two, working hard in school to better the lives of my children and the Aboriginal community. I grew up in foster care and have faced many hardships in life, because of this I know what it will take to work with children and families as a future social worker. I want to be a voice for First Nations people, and hope to instill change within the welfare system.

This is my first time winning a bursary, thank you for selecting me, and allowing me to tell my story.



**Shatasha Wesley**  
**LAX KW' ALAAMS BAND**  
**Native Education College Health Care Assistant**

My name is Tasha Wesley, I am Haida and Tsimshian. I grew up in Port Simpson/Prince Rupert and have lived in Vancouver for 5 years with my 8 year old daughter. My career goal is to become a social worker. I would like to work in facilities with elders. I enjoy working toward this goal and I am excited to start my career.



**Meagan Wilson**  
**CAPE MUDGE FIRST NATION/WE WAI KAI**  
**Native Education College Family and Community Counselling**

My hopes, dreams and goals are to help people and to be the best person I can be. My career goals over the next few years are to continue my education and receive a Bachelors degree in Social Work. I believe that everything I have encountered along my journey has provided tools to use in my future. Along my way, I have been learning about myself, where I am from and who I aspire to be.

It is with gratitude and honour that I have received this bursary. This has been an opportunity that I definitely will not take for granted. This bursary and NRT are making it possible for me to focus on my academic goal without having to worry about how I will make ends meet. Thank you.



**Jayson Wing**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Douglas College Sports Science - Specialization in Kinesiology**

My personal goal is to obtain a career in Kinesiology and earn a respectful reputation in the sports community. Furthermore, I have a passion to represent my Aboriginal heritage and continue striving for more knowledge. I hope to one day be a professional trainer, primarily in basketball. Also I plan to travel outside the country one day to pursue different aspects and lifestyles related to sports.



## Haley Prince

**NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN BAND**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Health Care Assistant Program**

My name is Haley Prince I am a Carrier First Nation. I grew up on the Nak'azdli Whut'en Reserve and I am a member of the Beaver Clan(Lhtsumusyoo). I wanted to further my education, so I chose to take

the Health Care Assistant Program. My very supportive partner Tommy, will be staying home to take care of our two year old son and new born daughter so I can attend the HCAP program.

This First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) Bursary will greatly assist me with my finances. I would like to say Snachailya (Thank You) to New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRTF) for all your support for my education.



## Amber Hawkins

**TAHLTAN NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

My name is Amber Hawkins and I am a proud Tahltan woman. This is my third year receiving this generous scholarship and I am so thankful! Currently I am going into my third year of the nursing program at the University of British Columbia and even though

it has proven to be very challenging, I am very much enjoying it. My goal for when I graduate and accumulate nursing experience is to work in a small Aboriginal community that is in need of nurses. Thank you so much for helping me reach my goals NRTF and FNHA!

I am so grateful for the NRTF and the FNHA. All their efforts to help First Nations students accomplish their goals and succeed in their education is amazing and very much appreciated.



**Jacqueline Badine**  
**FORT NELSON FIRST NATION**  
**Arizona State University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Human Nutrition**

I am Dene from the Fort Nelson First Nation and a mom of 3 children. I have one more year to complete my BS in Nutrition and I am working hard to get into a dietetic internship after graduation, so I can gain my Registered Dietitian (RD) credential. I eventually want to continue on into grad school after getting some industry experience. Education has opened many doors for me and I encourage fellow natives to pursue your dreams and educate yourself, so that we can help our people and so the little ones will want to follow our path.



**Gezina Baehr**  
**SONGHEES NATION**  
**University of Alberta**  
**Bachelor of Science - Pharmacy**

I'm 19 years old and I've known since I was 15 that I wanted to become a Pharmacist. After mapping out my academic career I applied for Pharmacy Studies at the University of Alberta and got accepted into the program! I am fulfilling my dreams and cannot wait to obtain my practising license. One day, I hope to work on the research side of pharmaceuticals, as chemistry is my passion and interest in pharmacology is what directed me towards pharmacy studies in the first place.



**Tamara Bob**  
**NANOOSE FIRST NATION**  
**Langara College**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

My name is Tamara Bob, and my family is from Nanoose First Nation. I am in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Langara College in Vancouver, BC. Nursing is a career that allows me to be an advocate for my culture, First Nations health initiatives, and public health across Canada. I have enjoyed my journey so far towards becoming a nurse, and my career goal is to promote health and healing in our communities as a registered nurse. I have followed my passion for higher education, which has resulted in many wonderful opportunities for my family.



**Khataya Brown**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Health**

My name is Khataya Brown and I am a proud Haida who was born and raised on Haida Gwaii. I am a third year student attending Simon Fraser University working towards completing my Bachelor of Arts in Health Sciences. I am expanding my education and focusing on health; a discipline I am excited about and one that I strongly believe I can use to give back to my community and the islands that mean so much to me. My long term goal is to have the education and experience necessary to work in my community promoting healthy lifestyles and disease prevention through nutrition.



**Courtney Chanin**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nutrition and Health**

My name is Courtney Chanin. I am student at Vancouver Island University completing prerequisite courses needed to enter into a Bachelor of Food Nutrition and Health. As an athlete I have always been interested in nutrition and I love to share my passion for healthy eating. Specifically, I want to educate people with physical or mental illnesses by teaching them how a change in dietary intake can drastically improve their daily lives. I believe that my education will provide me with the knowledge needed to make a positive change in the lives of everyone around me.



**Tatyana Daniels**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Biology**

My name is Tatyana Daniels and I am from the Gitksan and We'tsuwet'en Nations in north-western British Columbia. I am entering my third year of the Bachelor of Science program, majoring in Cellular, Molecular, and Microbial Biology. Once I graduate with my undergraduate degree, I hope to continue my studies and attend medical school. After that, I plan to return to my community and practice medicine while improving the health care of Aboriginal people in the area.



**Tia Felix**  
**SPLATSIN TE SECWEPENC**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Science - Midwifery**

I am a proud Splatstin woman from the Secwepenc Nation, and am surrounded by an extraordinary family and an amazing community. They continually enrich me about our culture and language. It is my people who have provided me with a deep appreciation and passion to care for others. As a future Indigenous midwife, it is vital to learn the history and culture of the people you wish to care for. This will aid in the holistic care offered to individuals, families, and the community's unique needs. Kukwstsamc (Thank you) NRTF for your generous support to continue my education.



**Aaron Grant**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Psychology**

My name is Aaron Grant, I am 20 years old, and was born and raised in Prince Rupert, B.C. I also have ancestral lineage in Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I plan on achieving a PhD in Clinical Psychology with a Masters (and eventually a PhD) in First Nations Studies. I aspire to work with children and their families living in rural communities to create new and effective treatments for mental illness. The combination of Psychology and First Nations Studies will help me obtain the skills and knowledge to achieve my goals.



**Danielle Harkey**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Health**

My name is Danielle Harkey and I am from the Musqueam Indian Band in Vancouver. I am currently in my second year at SFU taking my Bachelor of Science in Health Science in which I hope to transfer into Medicine in my third year. I have always had a passion for First Nations Health, beginning my early career as a nurse; I only dreamt of becoming a doctor. I hope to pursue this dream of mine and continue to serve my nation and people. hay čxʷ qə.



**Darryl Harsch**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

I chose to return to school to pursue a career in health care after working in the forest industry for 20 years. I am enjoying my program at UVIC where I have been focusing on Aboriginal Nursing. I am fortunate to be able to attend an institution that has great aboriginal supports. I look forward to a career in Aboriginal Nursing on Haida Gwaii as this is where my family is from.

I would like to thank the **New Relationship Trust Foundation** and the **First Nation Health Authority** for their support.



**Tyler Hofmann**  
**UPPER NICOLA BAND**  
**University of Calgary**  
**Bachelor of Kinesiology**

I am an Athletic Therapy student at the University of Calgary. I will be entering my final year of my degree this fall and will complete the CATA certification exam shortly after I graduate. I hope to build a career as an Athletic Therapist in Calgary so that I may build up my skills and reputation enough to find a placement within a professional sports organization.



**Christina Jacobs**  
**CHESLATA CARRIER NATION**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

I am from the Cheslatta Carrier Nation. I earned a BA majoring in Psychology in 2015, completed upgrading courses, and I have recently been accepted to the school of Nursing. I am part of a unique family where there are three generations of First Nations women in our household. I was taught the traditional way of fostering relationships with both elders and others in my life. I believe in giving back, so I am an Aboriginal mentor at Thompson Rivers University. I am excited to receive my Nursing degree and apply my traditional training with coworkers to give back to my community.



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

I am a member of the Lower Nicola Indian Band in Merritt, BC. After graduating from high school I successfully completed the Therapist Assistant program offered at Okanagan College. While I was working in the health care field I became increasingly interested in pursuing a nursing degree. I had realized my calling was to assist and care for patients. Just this past spring, I received the formal confirmation that I had been accepted into the nursing degree program at TRU. As a nurse I want to be a positive role model and help people from my community.



**Tony Kenoras**  
**ADAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Kinesiology**

My name is Tony Kenoras and I am currently in my last few years in a Kinesiology program. I choose this program because I have always been physically active, in multiple sports at a time, and I wanted to learn more about this field of study. As I got further into my studies I decided I wanted to help others get healthy, physically and mentally. So I hope I can eventually use my education towards helping out my community.



**Jennifer Loring**  
**NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION**  
**University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Arts - History**

Hello, my english name is Jennifer Loring and my Gitxsan name is Gitwin' gam Gweexw, which means Whistling Groundhog. As a child I would follow my Granny around, previous Simogyet Gwininitwx, as she would care for the Elders of our community through her role as not only the Chief, but as a professional health care worker. My mother, current Simogyet Gwininitwx, went to nursing school as well and had anatomy books that I would often get into and read. This is where my love for caring and science all began. I want to care for my people through traditional and modern medicine.



**Levana Mastrangelo**  
**UCLUELET FIRST NATION**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Bachelor of Science - Microbiology**

čačim hihak kʷaa (Hi), ukʷahmah (my name is) Levana Mastrangelo, I am a Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation from Yuuʷuʷiʷaʷath (Ucluelet) Nation. I am finishing my undergraduate majoring in Microbiology, completing the LE'NONET Indigenous studies program, and also graduating with Work co-op program. I am very passionate about ʷuyiyii (giving medicine) and maintaining natural habitats. I am a strong researcher and believe ʷayaaʷama mamims (there's lots of work) that needs to be done in revitalizing and strength building BC's Traditional First Nations Medicine. My journey in education and life has carried me to a beautiful realization for the importance of traditional healing.



**Tashina Matilpi**  
**TLOWITSIS TRIBE**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Science**

My name is Tashina Matilpi and at only age 18 I am beginning my second year of University. Currently I am taking sciences at TRU but I hope to get into the Pharmacology program at UBC to become a Pharmacist. I work hard to be successful so that I can make a change for the betterment of my family, community, and the world. I hope to be able to share my story to help others believe in themselves. Regardless of the situation you are born into, you can change it as I did.



**Jacqueline Mattice**  
**WILLIAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

I am a proud member of the T'exelc. My passion has always been to work with elders in the First Nations communities. My overall goal is to work as a Gerontological Nurse so I can work with elders and to advocate for their health care. I am looking forward to my future in the health profession. Thank you NRTF for your generous scholarship and for your dedication to First Nations' education.



**Jessica McIntyre**  
**DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Science – Nursing**

Nu gwa um Kwaxwalaogwa glu nu gwa um Dzawa'daenuxw. I am Dzawa'daenuxw of Kingcome Inlet, BC. I grew up in Northern Canada but moved to Vancouver for University 10 years ago. Since then, I have completed my undergraduate degree, worked in television and communications, and recently had the opportunity to move to Kingcome. While there, I was inspired to pursue nursing so that I can better serve our communities. I am now entering my final year at the UBC School of Nursing and completing an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I am working towards being a Registered Nurse.



**Stephanie McMahon**  
**SNUNEMUXW FIRST NATIONS**  
**University of Victoria**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

My Name is Stephanie I am a Coast Salish women from Snunemuxw First Nation. I am currently in my 4th year of nursing at UVIC. In the future, I would like to further my education and apply to the Nurse Practitioner program. I believe by pursuing my goals in a higher education will enable me to accomplish my dream for my community and overall strengthen others through strengthening myself. I know that I can be a positive role model for the younger generation of First Nations people and to other First Nations community's across BC and Canada.



**Brooke Mounsey**  
**SIMPCW FIRST NATION**  
**Stanford University**  
**Bachelor of Science – Biology**

This past summer I was lucky enough to work in a research centre at UBC that produces knowledge on marginalized and vulnerable youth. While there, I completed an extensive project on Indigenous homeless LGBTQ and Two-Spirit adolescent health and resilience. My previous experience includes working at the First Nations Health Authority, where I carried out a research-based report on Elders' wellness in BC. I hope to use these experiences

and the competencies I've built towards my goal of becoming a Physician one day and working with underserved populations.



**Michelle Myers**  
**XENI GWET'IN FIRST NATIONS**  
**University of Alberta**  
**Bachelor of Science -**  
**Environmental Conservation**

I come from the Tsilhqoti'n community of Xenigwet'in and I was raised by my parents within a cultural lifestyle. I am the mother of my six year old son Treven, and I have been in post-secondary education for four years. I hold strong beliefs in sustainable and environmentally friendly practices that are rooted in my traditional knowledge background. I have been involved in several climate action, Indigenous land sovereignty, and clean energy summits, workshops, and meetings. My dream is to help my community develop an economically viable and environmentally sustainable resource management legacy that is based on our cultural teachings.

I thank NRTF and FNHA for supporting me financially and believing in my abilities to continue my post-secondary journey. I thank my parents, family, and community of Xenigwet'in who have always whole-heartedly supported me and provided me with the backbone to chase my wildest dreams. University is tiresome, difficult, frustrating and everything in between but it is those who both encourage and discouraged me that have helped me build the steady path I am on. I encourage those who are beginning to build their own paths to remember that you may not always, or never, know where you are going or what you are doing but it is remembering who and where you come from that will keep you moving. Sachenalyagh gulin, Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



**Julian Napoleon**  
**SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Science - Applied Biology**

My name is Julian Napoleon and I am Dane-zaa/Cree from the Saulneau First Nations in northern BC's Peace River region. I am dedicated to learning, practicing, and revitalizing the cultural traditions of my ancestors. I am nearing the end of a Biology undergrad at the University of British Columbia that focuses on sustainable food systems. New Relationship Trust has been instrumental in allowing me to focus on succeeding in my studies and this current scholarship will support me while I finish my studies at field school in Haida Gwaii!



**Christina Neilson**  
**LAXGALTS'AP VILLAGE GOVERNMENT**  
**Ryerson University**  
**Bachelor of Science - Midwifery**

My name is Chrissy Neilson and I am a citizen of the Nisga'a Nation. I dragged my family from B.C. to Ontario to become a midwife and help bring new life into the world. My daughter, son, and partner have changed their whole lives to help me complete this goal. My long term goal is to create an Aboriginal Birth Centre similar to the one in Toronto where people can come and birth in a space that values tradition and family, but first I have to become a very good midwife.



**Emily Pearson**  
**STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Science**

My name is Emily Graceanna Pearson, and I am from the Stellat'en First Nation. I am currently in my first year of the Bachelor of Science program at the University of British Columbia. These past few months have been an amazing experience, allowing me to discover and explore my interests. I am looking forward to my next few years as an undergraduate, and am excited to see where this education path leads me to in the future.



**Morgan Richards**  
**NAK'AZDLI BAND COUNCIL**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Bachelor of Science - Nursing**

My name is Morgan Richards. I am from Fort St. James and am a member of Nak'azdli, the Carrier Nation of the Dene. I am beginning my first year in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. After successfully completing a Medical Laboratory Assistant Certificate program and working in a nearby city of my home town, I was highly motivated to further my education in the Health Field. I have a passion for health care and education and am excited to contribute to the health and safety of my hometown after graduating.



**Mike Wesley**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Health Science – Dietetics**

My name is Mike Wesley, I am from the Gitksan Nation and I was born and raised in Hazelton, B.C. I'm lucky to have a beautiful wife and son who I love very much. I am currently in the Bachelor of Science program at Thompson Rivers University. I plan on transferring to UBC to get my Major in Dietetics and possibly a minor in Psychology. My dream is to become a Dietitian and work with First Nation communities such as the one I grew up in.

I am very grateful for the support that New Relationship Trust Foundation offers. My family and I are better situated because of this award, which will allow me to focus on my studies.



**Lauren Brown**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Royal Roads University**

**Master of Arts in Leadership - Health**  
 My Haida Name is Gyaa XaaGaayUance, (Lauren Brown) and I was born and raised in Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am proud to be living back in my own community working as the Health Director and raising a family. My career goal is to obtain my Master of Arts in Leadership - Health Specialty, and I am entering my 2nd year. My overall objective and goal is to contribute towards empowering our First Nation people to achieve their highest level of wellness. Health care is challenging and rewarding at the same time, and I am excited to be a part of it.



**Katrina Joseph**  
**ST. MARY'S BAND**  
**University of Montana**  
**Master of Science - Clinical Mental Health Counselling**

I am an ?A'qam member from the Ktunaxa Nation and a mother to three beautiful girls who support my education. I am in my first year of the Masters Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at the University of Montana. Helping others has always been a passion and an interest that has guided my educational journey. My vision is to empower or guide others by providing counseling, motivational speaking, and awareness on personal growth and development. I strongly believe in order to become a strong, healthy, and self-sufficient community with our culture in hand, we need to start by healing ourselves.

In my culture, we have been taught to believe with one heart and meet the creator half way and we will get what we ask for, which has been my education. I am so thankful to New Relationship Trust Foundation for giving me the opportunity to further my education and pursue my passion to one day give back to my children, family and community.



**Michelle Sam**  
**NAK'AZDLI BAND COUNCIL**  
**University of British Columbia**

**Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner**  
 I am from Nak'azdli First Nation in Fort St. James. My career goal is to work as a Nurse Practitioner and offer primary health care services on-reserve to First Nations people. I received my BScN in 2005 and practiced as a registered nurse for 10 years before embarking on this amazing journey. Accessible primary care services at all levels of prevention are critical to First Nations people to decrease the alarming morbidity and mortality rates. I want to be a part of this change and work with First Nations people to achieve a higher level of wellness.

Receiving the NRTF scholarship has given me the opportunity to focus on the demands of the MN-NP program. Thank you immensely for alleviating the financial burden of going to school full-time with a family to support. I am forever grateful for the continued support of the NRT foundation.



**Jennifer Smith**  
**TLOWITSIS TRIBE**  
**Royal Roads University**  
**Master of Arts in Leadership - Health**

My name is Jenn Smith and I am from the Tlowitsis Nation. The last year of my life has been absolutely amazing! Last summer began with hopes, dreams and goal-setting. Then came acceptance into this program and from then - every day, every week, every course has offered me new challenges and lessons. I've learned and accomplished more than I ever thought I could. I am fortunate to work at an organization whose values mirror my own and where I have the privilege of passionately contributing to the health and wellness journeys and outcomes of First Nations People in BC.

I am extremely grateful to my mentors and family for their support. I am also very honored to have received support from the NRTF!



**Steven Tresierra**

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

I am a proud member of the Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of British Columbia-Okanagan before studying medicine at Queen's University, where I am currently entering my second year. At Queen's, I have helped develop a mentorship

program for Indigenous students, I am an active member on the university's TRC task force, and I assisted in the development of an educational module on Indigenous health for medical students. In the future, I will continue to participate in advocacy roles for indigenous health.

I would like to thank my family, friends, and my wife for supporting me in my academic pursuits. Furthermore, I would like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation (NRTF) and First Nations Health Authority for providing me with this scholarship to achieve my academic goals. This scholarship helps relieve some of the financial stress associated with attending medical school and has allowed me to focus more on my academics and volunteer work.



**Tarissa Alec**

**TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Doctor of Medicine**

I am from Takla Lake First Nation and Hazelton, BC. I recently started my first year of the MD Undergraduate Program at UBC. I am proud to say that I have a wonderful husband who is also in the medical field, and that we have a beautiful son. Together, we are hoping to provide care for rural

and remote communities in Northern BC. Being from a remote reservation myself, I understand that access to care is a significant determinant of health that is often lacking in the North. I am passionate about doing my part to decrease this disparity.



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

I was raised on K'omoks reserve on Vancouver Island. I am an Adult Education Graduate from 2011 and just finished a Bachelor of Science at SFU in 2016. It has been a life long dream of mine to study medicine and become a Doctor in order to give back to my community and make my family and my people proud.

I am so incredibly excited to start medical school, thank you so much NRTF & FNHA!



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

I was born and raised in Northern BC and it is so exciting to be home to continue my education at UNBC with the Northern Medical Program! Medical school has been an amazing adventure so far and is truly a dream come true. I have had some wonderful opportunities to work with the great physicians and communities in the Prince George area and this has only further fueled my passion for my future career. I plan on continuing to pursue paediatrics or general practice, with hopes of serving smaller communities in British Columbia.



**Joshua Nash**  
TAHLTAN NATION  
University of Calgary  
Doctor of Medicine

As the second oldest sibling of five brothers and five sisters, I have always prioritized my education and I hope that it inspires them to pursue education in their own lives. I chose a career in medicine because it would allow me to contribute to my family, my community, and my own personal growth all in one. I hope to mentor other Indigenous students throughout my medical education who aspire to become future physicians as well. I am honoured and humbled by my education and will use it to serve First Nation communities across Canada.



**Ellie Parton**  
WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION  
University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Medicine

I am a fourth year UBC Medical student, and before this I studied biochemistry and French. Looking back, I am filled with emotion at what an honor it has been to pursue this education. I have been heavily involved in patient care and it is truly a privilege, including delivering babies! I want to help make positive waves in aboriginal health through my career. Outside of school, you can find me reading to my daughter or doing family crafts or games. I love to cook, listen to audiobooks, bike to work, and to create including beading and wool projects.



**Nathan Teegee**  
TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION  
University of British Columbia  
Doctor of Medicine – Dermatology

Nathan Teegee is a member of the Takla Lake First Nation and is studying at the University of British Columbia. He has entered into his first-year to become a specialist in the field of Dermatology. He plans on improving access to a dermatologist for communities that are underserved once he has completed his program. He is interested in skin cancer and increasing awareness about risk factors for skin cancer. Nathan is married and in his spare time enjoys reading, watching movies, and playing tennis with his wife.



**Natasha Wawrykow**  
SKUPPAH INDIAN BAND  
University of British Columbia  
Phd in Counselling Psychology

'Uy' skweyul. My name is Natasha Wawrykow. My family comes from the Skuppah Band in Lytton, British Columbia. I am completing my PhD in Counselling Psychology at the University of British Columbia. My therapy focus includes inter-generational trauma and anxiety reduction within Aboriginal populations. In 2015, I began my PhD program, which included a practicum at Surrey Memorial Hospital-Adolescent Psychiatric Unit. My thesis investigates cultural sources of self-worth for Aboriginal People. During my graduate training I have created an Aboriginal Youth Mentorship Program, which bridges my enthusiasm for academia and commitment to giving back to Aboriginal People.



**Matthew Ambers**  
NAMGIS FIRST NATION  
Camosun College  
Indigenous Studies

My personal goal is to learn more of my language, songs and dances. I want to be fully immersed in culture and community, as we learn for the future by listening to the past. It is important for me to engage in learning with both elders and youth, and my career goal is to work alongside them to enhance our shared knowledge of culture.



**Michelle Atchison**  
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH  
Northwest Community College  
Business Administration

My goal is to achieve my Business Administration Accounting Concentration Diploma in Terrace B.C. I'm a single mom and a member of the Gitlaxt'aamiks Band, holding the name Hlgu Hatix Gwiikw. In the 2015/16 school year I completed my Human Resource Diploma through the Business Administration program. My next goal is to carry on to the University of Northern British Columbia to complete my Bachelors of Commerce. I enjoy and excel in the financial components of the Business Administration program, thus making it an easy choice as to the direction I've chosen for continuing my education.



**Cheyenne Cook**  
KATZIE FIRST NATION  
Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
Business

My personal career goals are to continue in a business related area within the equestrian sport. I am a decorated equestrian and currently hold over 30 national titles. My titles encompass North America with championship titles in Canada and reserve championship titles in the United States. My ultimate goal would be to open a horse training facility in North America.

Thank you very much for the financial aid with this Bursary.



**Daniel Finney**  
XAXLI'P BAND  
Vancouver Community College  
Heavy Mechanical Trades Level 1  
Technical Training

Ultimately years down the road I would like to build something for aboriginal youth, or something to give back to the aboriginal community, like quality training and employment opportunities.

Thank you so much to everybody involved. This is another great step towards my goal of helping my community.



**Daniel Owen Harris**  
GITWANGAK BAND COUNCIL  
Douglas College  
Engineering Essentials

My personal and career goals are one in the same. No matter where I live in BC or what career path I follow, I want to have a positive impact in my community by helping people and protecting the environment. I believe that a career in Environmental Engineering will help me protect the land and waters of the west coast while working alongside members of my community. Everything I learn in my Engineering Program will contribute to my future personal and career goals.



**Kyle Joe**  
COWICHAN TRIBES  
Vancouver Island University  
Carpentry

My name is Kyle Joe. I am a Cowichan Tribes member and I reside in Stz'uminus First Nation. I am beginning my first year of Carpentry at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo Campus. The New Relationship Trust Foundation has been a huge support to my entrance into VIU. I am very grateful to NRTF and BC Hydro for supporting my journey, not only my path, but also the education of many other First Nation students. NRTF has supported three members from Stz'uminus First Nation and I am grateful for this. Thank you.





**Brian Madam**  
LAKE BABINE NATION  
Camosun College  
Indigenous Studies

My name is Brian Madam and I'm Carrier from Burns Lake, BC. This past year I have been working towards completing the two year Indigenous studies diploma at Camosun College. My long term goal is to transfer to UBC and complete a degree in First Nations Indigenous Studies. Once I've completed my education, I'd like to return to Lake Babine and work with youth as a mentor to help our younger generations educate themselves and achieve future goals. I have nothing but the best interest at heart for our future generations.



**Kimberly Olson**  
GITSEGUKLA BAND COUNCIL  
Northwest Community College  
Business Administration

Hello my name is Kimberly Olson. I am from the Gitksan nation. I lived on Gitsegukla Reserve for 24 years, I currently reside in Terrace, BC. I decided to make the move for a better education for my children and I. I've been married for eight years and I have three wonderful children. I will be starting my first year in Business Administration Diploma with a concentration in Accounting at Northwest Community College.



**Terry Webber**  
NUXALK NATION  
Northwest Community College  
Level 4 Electrical

I was born and raised in Nuxalk territory, with family ties to the Heiltsuk & Kwakwaka'wakw Nations. I am a proud husband to a precious wife and a proud father to four precious children, of whom I hold close and dear to my heart. They are the uplifting motivation to my career endeavours and apprentice school success. I owe a lot of credit to the IBEW LU 993 for providing quality mentorship, leadership, and indenturing me throughout my apprenticeship. The teachings, guidance, wisdom and support of my grandparents and elders will continue to be significant values to live by and teach to my children and next generation.



**Sonia Bear**  
UPPER NICOLA BAND  
Capilano University  
Bachelor of Business Administration

I have been inspired by students, encouraged by friends, and supported by family to continue my educational endeavors. Understanding that a higher education will play an integral part to my personal growth and contribution to society, I returned to post-secondary as a mature student to obtain my Bachelor of Business Administration. Now, I am in my fourth year and the NRTF scholarship with BC Hydro has become a major sponsor toward my educational achievement and future success. I am truly grateful.



**Shaylene Dekock-Kruger**  
PENTICTON INDIAN BAND  
University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering

My name is Shaylene Dekock-Kruger – I am a proud member of the Okanagan First Nations and a student specializing in electrical engineering at UBC. Being in university has made me realize that I really love learning and appreciate having access to great post-secondary education in the Okanagan. This educational journey has proved to me that I can do anything I set my mind to. Once I am ready to leave the path of academia, I look forward to working in industry and encouraging the advancements of clean energy and sustainable practices in my future as an engineer.



**Chandler Farlin**  
SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS  
University of the Fraser Valley  
Bachelor of Health Science

My name is Chandler Farlin and I will be attending my first year of university at the University of the Fraser Valley in fall 2016. My goal is to complete the Bachelors Degree in Health Science and later transfer to Medical Program at the University of British Columbia to pursue a career as a Physician. After completion of my studies, my goal is to open a medical facility that offers health services, health education workshops, and baby clinics.



**Lynn Morrison**  
SIMPCW FIRST NATION  
University of Victoria | Bachelor of Science

I am a member of Simpcw First Nation, born in Kamloops, BC. This year, I graduated from South Kamloops Secondary and have been accepted to the University of Victoria for Bachelor of Sciences. Furthering my education is extremely important to me as it opens more doors to be able to give back to my community. While continuing my education, I hope to help other youth find their confidence in themselves, and encourage them to achieve what they set their minds to as others did for me.

I would like to thank Simpcw and my community back home for supporting me in my academic career and believing in me, my family for always encouraging me, while letting me find my own path and experiences myself, and to New Relationship Trust Foundation for this amazing scholarship. There is so much gratitude for everyone who has come into my life and who have encouraged me to continue my studies.



**Alex Mounsey**  
SIMPCW FIRST NATION  
University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Commerce

Currently enrolled in my second year at the Sauder School of Business at UBC, my interest areas include real estate and marketing. I hope to incorporate my passion for photography and video production into my business career. I am a well-rounded individual taking time to be involved in community service, music, and sports. I enjoy travelling, keeping active, and always enjoy learning through new experiences. This summer I had the opportunity to work as an intern with Polygon and learn about the real estate development field – a great experience.

Thank you so much for supporting First Nations youth in achieving their dreams!



**Kayla Uren**  
SQUAMISH NATION  
Simon Fraser University | Bachelor of Arts - Communications and Publishing

I am the proud great granddaughter of the Late Chief Simon Baker and Emily Baker and daughter of Angela Uren. I am in my fourth year of my program with a focus in Communications and Publishing. This year was my first Co-op work experience and this allowed me to explore my field further and develop my skills in my chosen area. I am looking forward to another year of new experiences and learning. I would like to thank the NRT Foundation for supporting my educational goals. This scholarship will enable me to be a positive role model in my community.



**Crystal Wallace**  
LIL'WAT NATION  
Royal Roads University  
Bachelor of Science - Environmental Practice

I am very passionate about nature and the environment. I want to use my education to help preserve the precious land that we have and all the living beings on it. I recently finished my Diploma in Environmental Resource Technology and loved every minute of it. I have been working for the local bands in my summers, and I have been a part of many different environmental and cultural projects. These projects have broadened my knowledge of field work and wildlife.



**Dylan Whitney**  
XAXLI'P FIRST NATION  
University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Engineering

I am in my third year of studies at UBC, pursuing a Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Physics. Complementary to my studies, I am involved in the Aboriginal community, volunteering as a chair side assistant in Vancouver's downtown Eastside Dental Clinic. In addition, I speak on behalf of the Xaxli'p First Nation to inspire aboriginal youth to embark on rewarding educational paths. I've earned the Dean's Honour List designation for six consecutive semesters at UBC. I strongly believe that through

concentrated effort in education, Aboriginal people will be able to attain economic and social security for future generations.

I'd like to thank the New Relationship Trust Foundation for their generous support, allowing me to focus my energy on mastering course material and actively pursuing roles in the Aboriginal community



**Adina Reyes Williams**  
SQUAMISH NATION

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies

My name is Adina Williams, and I descend from the Skwxwú7mesh and 'Namgis peoples. I am 20 years old and I'm in my second year of First Nations and Indigenous Studies at UBC. Having lived on reserve my entire life, I've observed and experienced many challenges that we continue to face as First Nations peoples. While I ultimately want to study medicine, I believe that my unique background in Indigenous Studies will help me better understand these challenges and, in turn, help me approach them in a way that will contribute to healing and positive changes within all Indigenous communities.

I would like to thank the NRT Foundation and BC Hydro for their generous support in my education. This scholarship will help me tremendously throughout my educational journey. Since receiving this award, I've looked into opportunities to study abroad, something that I would not otherwise be able to do due to the high costs associated with it. I look forward to stepping outside of a traditional classroom setting and learning instead from the land like my ancestors did. I am so grateful, and I raise my hands up to you in thanks. Huy Chexwa. Gilakasla.



**Jennifer Cameron**  
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN BAND

Langara College  
Aboriginal Studies

My name is Jennifer Cameron; I am Dakelh from Nak'azdli Whut'en, and I am from the Lusilyoo Clan. Currently, I am in my 2nd year of the Aboriginal Studies: Associate of Arts Program at Langara College. Once I graduate from Langara in April 2017, I will be moving on to UBC to pursue a Bachelor of Arts Degree in First Nations Studies. Ultimately, my goal is to apply my degree towards a career in Social Work, with a focus in Aboriginal family and community development.



**Ashley Cooper**  
WSÁNEĆ AND NUU CHAH NULTH

University of Victoria  
W,SENĆOŦEN IST

I am Ashley Cooper from the WSÁNEĆ + Nuuchah Nulth First Nations. I am a student in the SENĆOŦEN language revitalization diploma program. I have found new depths of myself while reconnecting with my community, and taken on a personal responsibility to preserve the culture and language. I have a passion for native plants to WSÁNEĆ (Saanich) and have found a position at PEPÁKEN HÁUTW as a workshop instructor and education coordinator. We have a native plant nursery located on the ŁAUWELNEW school grounds.



**Chris Lechkobit-Carpenter**  
HEILTSUK NATION/BELLA BELLA

Concordia University  
Community Economic Development

Hello, my name is Chris and I am a Heiltsuk person from Vancouver, BC. I study Community Economic Development at Concordia University. This program is relevant to my career in social development and community organizations. I do this study and work to help communities grow themselves, to help build new paths forward, and to help strengthen enterprises and initiatives. In our lives and work we are embedded in our places, contexts, and relations. It is important to make a difference, to lead by example, and to support when needed. Anyone can do so, even if the task seems too big.



**Jeanette Mercer**  
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH

Camosun College  
Associate Degree in Psychology

My name is Jeanette Mercer and I am from the Nisga'a Nation of the Killer Whale tribe. I am honoured and grateful to attend school in Coast Salish territory. I am currently enrolled in the associates of Psychology at Camosun college and plan to pursue my Psychology degree at the University of Victoria in the near future. When I complete my studies, I plan to return to my community and work as a registered Psychologist. I am incredibly grateful for this bursary through New Relationship Trust.



**Lauren Mitchell**  
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND

Langara College  
Diploma in Early Childhood Education

My name is Lauren Mitchell and I am a member of the Musqueam First Nation. My work with children in my community inspired me to earn a Bachelor of Applied Science with a major in Child, Youth, and Family. After working with children and families in various capacities over the last few years, I have decided to become certified as an Early Childhood Educator, in order to better serve young children and their families. As an Early Childhood Educator I hope to help children develop the foundations for a lifetime of learning, and to foster resiliency in children and families.



**Luke Thomas**  
TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
Associates Degree of Social Work

I was born and raised on the Tsleil-Waututh Nation (Burrard) Reserve. I am currently enrolled at NVIT in the Associates Degree of Social Work program. Getting back into school right now is the best choice for me because it will strength my ability to serve others. This is my life's goal and purpose.



**Rhonda Bird**  
LAKE BABINE NATION

Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
Bachelor of Social Work

I am a proud mother of two children, who are four and 24 years of age, and a blessed grandmother of a one-year-old grandson and two-year-old granddaughter. It has been an exciting journey returning to my BSW studies. I have gained valuable knowledge from my instructors and the faculty at NVIT. By completing my third-year practicum, I am now a Cultural Home Support Worker who helps women and families reconnect with their culture, communities, wellness, education, and recreation resources through Helping Spirit Lodge Society. This work experience is preparing me for front line Social Work.



**Kailee Duncan**  
STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION

Thompson Rivers University  
Bachelor of Arts

Hadih, my name is Kailee Duncan. I am a proud member of the Stellat'en First Nation. I am so thankful to be receiving this scholarship to pursue my dreams of learning here at Thompson Rivers University. I am in the Bachelor of Arts program because it will give me a baseline of knowledge and the opportunities to branch off. I am 18 years old and am very grateful that I have received funding to go into post secondary education right away. Thank you for this opportunity.



**Jessie Stirling**  
WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION

University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - Political Science

My name is Jessie Stirling and I am a member of the Wei Wai Kum First Nation in Campbell River. I am currently completing my fourth and final year of undergraduate studies at the University of British Columbia and will graduate with a degree in Political Science in the spring of 2017. After graduation I plan to attend law school and focus my degree on Aboriginal Law. In my free time I am the Vice President of the Rotaract Club of Vancouver, a writer for my campus newspaper, and a volunteer at a pro bono law office in the city.



**Trevor Casey**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Commerce**

My name is Trevor Casey and I am from the Haida Nation. Since entering UBC in the fall of 2013 I have been a member of the UBC Thunderbirds varsity football team as well as a member of the Sauder School of Business. Athletics may have brought me to UBC but, since arriving, I have found a deep passion for the field of finance and economics. I hope to one day use what I learn to further the economic development of Haida Gwaii and to give back to the community.

Being a full time student as well as a varsity athlete, I am always struggling to manage my time as well as provide for myself. The support of the New Relationship Trust Foundation has allowed me to focus on the aspects of my life that I am passionate about: family, academics, and football. Without it, I wouldn't have the opportunity I need to succeed in a competitive marketplace such as Vancouver.



**Nicholas Point**  
**SKOWKALE FIRST NATION**  
**University of the Fraser Valley**  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**

My name is Nicholas Point and I am from Skowkale First Nation. I am fortunate to come from a family and community rich with culture and traditions. I have worked in Aboriginal Health for seven years, which inspired me to return to school to pursue my bachelor degree in Business Administration. I am entering my third year of study at the University of the Fraser Valley. I realize that I have the potential to make positive impact through aspects of leadership and administration, and can reach my potential for bringing positive change and transformation through my post-secondary education.



**Kashtin Apsassin**  
**BLUEBERRY RIVER FIRST NATIONS**  
**MacEwan University**  
**Bachelor of Commerce**

I am Kashtin Apsassin, a Dane-zaa student in my third year of pursuing my Bachelor of Commerce - management major. Throughout my life I have developed leadership and organizational skills. I was in Air Cadets for 6 years in Grande Prairie, and have active participation in my community - I have obtained the bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. These experiences put me on the path I am on today as I wish to make a positive impact in the world of management. I strive to lead, empower, and inspire my colleagues through ethical management practices.

Words cannot express the gratitude I have for the opportunities you make available to individuals like me. I have just returned from an exchange semester in Austria as I enter my third year of studies, and I assure you, this scholarship will be put to good use in my studies. To whom it may concern, thank you. Sincerely, Kashtin.



**Ayden Leon**  
**NAK'AZDLI BAND COUNCIL**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Science**

Hello my name is Ayden Leon and I am a recent graduate of Fort St. James Secondary School and recipient of the NRTF undergraduate scholarship. I was born and raised in the small town of Fort St. James, BC located in the Dakelh territory, and am a member of the Nak'azdli Whut'en. I will be attending my first year of university at TRU located in Kamloops, BC to pursue my bachelors degree in general sciences.

Thank you so much to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for the opportunity to pursue my studies. I am honored for the support I have received. Musi Cho.



**Laura Beaton**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Lethbridge College**  
**Renewable Resource Management**

My name is Laura, I am from Skidegate village on the North Coast. I am attending Lethbridge College in Alberta enrolled in Renewable Resource Management. I work for Gwaii Haanas - Parks Canada and my program will help me climb the ladder more.

This is the first time I have applied for a bursary for Post-Secondary. This application was hard work in getting all of the information right but worth it in the end.



**Bryan Joe**  
**COWICHAN TRIBES**  
**Langara College**  
**Accounting Diploma**

Artist turned potential C.P.A., Bryan Joe Jr. balances a cultural and business life of Indigenous dexterity. He was born on the Comeakin reservation and raised in Sts'ailes' gifted, dual traditional values. While attending Blanche Macdonald, Bryan was exposed to social injustice during his studies. This inspired him to volunteer to support Indigenous and environmental rights through various agencies, which eventually led him to working in Accounts Receivable. Nurtured into an acting supervisory role, Bryan prospered and took accounting clerk training. He utilized these tools at the Circle of Eagles Lodge until his Accounting program started in September 2016 at Langara College.

I'm excited, honoured, and thankful for the NRTF for covering me with this blanket in my studies. Thank you for supporting my dream in working to build a better indigenous community.



**Tracey Aljam**  
**COLDWATER INDIAN BAND**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Office Administration Certificate**

My name is Tracey Aljam. I am from the Coldwater Indian Band just south of Merritt, British Columbia. I am a full-time student at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, and I am currently enrolled in the Office Administration program. I have a talent for computer based work, a skill that I hope to practice in the future. One of my goals is to successfully complete the Office Administration Executive Assistant program, which is a new program for 2016-2017. I have always been a dedicated and hardworking person when it comes to achieving my goals.



**Orenda David-Noisecat**  
**CANIM LAKE BAND**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Accounting Diploma**

Orenda David-Noisecat is a full-time student as well as dedicated single mother. She is currently attending BCIT and working towards her Financial Management Diploma with a focus in Accounting. Further down the road she would like to continue onto a Bachelors Degree in Public Administration. As an inter-generational residential school survivor, she hopes to break that cycle. A proven way of doing so is by nurturing a positive environment for her son to be raised in; One that empowers the idea of First Nation's people furthering their understanding of the world around them. This all starts with her own post-secondary education.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to earn bursaries or grants such as this. I'm not only a single mother but also a single mother living away from the familiarity and support of home. With the help of organizations such as yours, I'm able to focus more on my son and my studies. Thank you very much for that, it means more than I can put into words.



**Brent Adams**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**UA Piping Industry College of BC**  
**Welding Level C & B Welding**

My Name is Brent W. Adams and I come from the House of Wilps Wii Naa Buxw from my home community of Gitlaxt'aamiks BC. I am Nisga'a and my parents are the late Donald W. Adams and the late Patricia Adams. I was born in Prince Rupert, January 31st, 1965. I started my schooling in trades at the age of 49, when I enrolled in the Piping Foundations in Terrace, BC, in 2014. In February of this year, I took it further by enrolling in the Welding Foundations Level C and successfully completed the course.



**Ashley Azak**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GITWINKSIHLKW**  
**College of the Rockies | Education Assistant**

Hlguu Daathl Hlway', Gitwinksihlkw wil jogay gans wilps Hleek. My Nisgaa name is "little matriarch", I come from Gitwinksihlkw, and from the house of Hleek-Dr Joe Gosnell. I have a young family and have always understood, thanks to my Chief and family, that education is the key to unlock many doors. I am a life long student and love education. I strongly believe that culture and education go hand-in-hand and balance the spirit.

I appreciate every opportunity NRT gives to our people. It is through education, we will begin to heal and build healthy generations. T'oyaksi n'iin NRT.



**Hailey Bennett**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE**  
**Langara College | General, Arts and Science**

My name is Hailey Bennett and I from the Haida Nation. I was born and raised on Haida Gwaii and my life there has given me the determination to pursue my education. I am currently attending Langara College with my focus on getting the most I can out of my time spent here, and later on applying to the University of Toronto. At Toronto I plan to Major in English so I can pursue a future career in that area. For me, the opportunity to learn is something that I will never take for granted.



**Caprice Billyboy**  
**KISPIOX BAND COUNCIL**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Human Services Diploma**

My Name is Caprice Billyboy and I am from the Wolf clan of the Gitxsan Nation. I am married and have three beautiful daughters. I am living in the Cariboo and attending Thompson River University in my second year of Human Services Diploma. My goal is to obtain a degree in Social Work through UNBC or TRU. I am so happy to be a recipient of a NRT Bursary. Thank you so much.



**Mitchell Bryant**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**UA Piping Industry College of British Columbia | Welding Level C & B Welding**

My name is Mitchell James Bryant, I am from the community of New Aiyansh BC. I took the welding foundation program in hopes of attaining a great career in the trades industry. Trades are becoming high in demand here in BC, and I personally would love to be apart of that demand, whether it be working in the City of Vancouver or out on a pipeline somewhere. Being a young man, I am eager to get out in the work force and attain the hours I need to become a Red Seal Journeyman.



**Johnny Taylor Charles Cecil**  
**GWA'SALA'-NAKWAXDA'XW FIRST NATION**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Carpentry apprenticeship program level 3**

My goal as a carpentry apprentice is to learn and use the skills provided to me, and to obtain my Red Seal in the future. I am always looking for ways to make work tasks more efficient and safe. I enjoy being in a productive work space and completing multiple tasks. I am always up for a challenge and learning new things daily.



**Ronald Charlie**  
**BURNS LAKE BAND**  
**Native Education College**  
**Aboriginal Justice Studies**

My name is Ron Charlie, and I am from Burns Lake, BC. I have three young boys, have completed my first year of Criminology, and am pursuing my second year this September. I am Caribou Clan and my wife and sons are Wolf

Clan. NRT has been a huge help to me and my family, identifying my hard work, which I plan on helping my people when I'm done my schooling. Thank you again for the acknowledgment.



**Dion Clark**  
**LAXGALTS'AP VILLAGE GOVERNMENT**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Welding Level 3**

I was born and raised in Laxgalts'ap and lived there until I graduated high school. After I moved to Vancouver, BC, I worked a lot of different jobs until I found my passion in welding. I completed my Welding Foundations program in 2014 and soon after was hired to work for Seaspan Shipyards in North Vancouver. Through their support as well as that of NRT, I have now completed my Level 3 welding. I have returned to work and am looking forward to finishing my last few years of schooling to become a Red Seal Welder.



**Makayla Commodore**  
**SOOWAHLIE FIRST NATION**  
**University of the Fraser Valley | Social Work**

My career goal is to receive my Bachelor in Social Work, and work in the hospital setting as a clinical social worker. Coming from a family with dysfunctional traits, I have learnt a lot when it comes to social issues faced in the family setting. From my experiences growing up, I want to apply my knowledge in a positive way to help assist others needing guidance. The knowledge I have gained and continue to learn I will work very hard to apply when I have completed the program. I have no doubt that I will be an exceptional social worker.



**Katelyn Cooper**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Resource Management and Officer Technology**

I am passionate about the environment and cultural harvesting areas that sustain the coastal resources First Nations have relied on for time immemorial. My studies in Natural Resources allow me to be a contributing factor to the wellness of the ecosystems found in the North Coast of BC.



**Lorraine Cress**  
**PAUQUACHIN FIRST NATION**  
**University of Washington**  
**Native Education Certificate Program**

Currently I work with the Hoh Indian Tribe on the coast of Washington State, 22 nautical miles from my home, Pauquachin First Nation. I have extensive experience working with diverse populations of adolescents and adults, both on and off the reservation. I have been working in Native communities, in the social service setting for 20+ years, during which I have been working with youth. My experience working and living in Indian Country will allow me to successfully help our Tribe to continue its efforts of community healing and to continue to break the viscous cycles of inter-generational trauma.



**Dallas Deneault**  
**SKETCHSTN INDIAN BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Pipefitting/Steamfitting**

Weytkp, hello, my name is Dallas Deneault. I'm from the Skeetchstn Indian Band in the Thompson Okanagan. My goal for the next few years is to earn a red seal trade in pipefitting/steamfitting. I believe it's important to have a trade before pursuing a career in engineering. This bursary will help me exceed in the classroom. Thank you, New Relations Trust!



**Dawn Derrick**  
**KITSELAS INDIAN BAND**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**Professional Cook Level 2**

It all began when I wanted a camp job. So, I asked my boy to take Comprehensive Cooks Helper with me. He liked it so much that he went on to Professional Cook Level 1 (PCL1). Then he pushed me to take (PCL1)! Amadeus and I, we get very competitive. PCL2 was coming up, so I challenged him. We want to open D.A.D.'s Catering and go for Professional Cook Level 3.

I love being in trades and thank NRT for believing in my endeavours and all the great work they do helping all the native people realize their dreams. Keep up the good work all you dreamers.



**Yvonne Forcier**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**Professional Cook 1&2**

I chose to be a Health Care Aid (HCA), but have been faced with challenges. I have worked in the Nass Valley in all four communities. In February 2014, I was in a motor vehicle accident and left unable to perform physical demands of HCA. I had to choose a different path. Another passion of mine is cooking, and I decided to get my Red Seal. Another challenge was my son was in an accident also, and it has changed all of our lives. I managed to continue studies and complete PC-1&2 and enroll in March 2017 for PC-3 then on to my Red Seal.



**Jamin Ganzeveld**  
**SUMAS**  
**Vancouver Community College | Culinary Arts**

My goals are to become a Red Seal Chef after completing my schooling and get a position in a high end hotel or catering company. I love to be creative with food and bring people enjoyment through my work. I would like to incorporate traditional First Nations ingredients and dishes into my cooking to open peoples minds to new flavours and foods they may have never experienced.



**Charlene George**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University | First Nations Language Proficiency Certificate Program**

My ancestral name is S7atsaliya, my English name is Charlene George. I come from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. My lifestyle is centered around many cultural activities, such as racing traditional War Canoes, performing traditional songs/dances (Children of Takaya), and wool weaving. I've now been given the opportunity to learn the Skwxw7mesh Snichim/Squamish Language through Simon Fraser University and Kwi Awt Stelmexw! I hope to incorporate the Skwxw7mesh language into everything I do, professionally and personally. I feel that learning a language I belong to will further connect me to my ancestors, my peers, and the generations to come.

I'd like to thank the New Relationship Trust for all of their generosity and support! With the help of the NRT, the struggle of being a post-secondary student has significantly lessened. I now feel like I can focus on learning the Skwxw7mesh Snichim, without outside worries! Thank you for helping not only myself, but so many other students as well! U siyám!



**David George**  
**HAGWILGET VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**CNC Machinist Technician**

My name is David George, I am taking the CNC Machinist Technician program at BCIT. I come from the village of Skidegate on Haida Gwaii. I am taking this course to better myself as well as to have a career in a growing field. By the end of this program I am hoping to have my own business set up.



**Kalup George**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**First Nations Language Proficiency Certificate**

My name is Kalup George from the Skwxw7mesh and Tsleil-Wautuh nations. I'm enrolled in the First Nations Language Proficiency program and striving for fluency in Skwxw7mesh language so that I can help revitalize the number of speakers in our Nation. One of my biggest dreams is to one day speak the language while playing the game that I love (lacrosse). Also, I would like to teach my family as well as my future kids to speak and understand while at home, sports, family gatherings, community, and cultural events.



**Marilyn (Andrea) George**  
**STZ'UMINUS BAND**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Culinary Arts Program**

My name is Marilyn (Andrea) George, a Stz'uminus Band member. I am entering the Culinary Arts Program. I enjoy cooking and am eager to learn more about cooking and different spices. Culinary Arts is going to help

my community with funerals, weddings, potlatches, and any other functions within my community. My great-grandmother, grandmother, mother, and grandfather knew how to cook, and as a child I learned from them. I want to become a chef, and remember what my family taught from generation to generation.



**Simon Gurney**  
**HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATION**  
**Camosun College**  
**Plumbing and Pipe Trades Foundation**

My name is Simon Gurney. I am from the HUU-ay-aht First Nation, which is located 300 km northwest of Victoria, BC. My personal goal is to complete my 4 years of school/apprenticeship to become a Plumber & Steamfitter Journeyman. Once I have done this, I will write my test to become Red Seal Certified and be capable of working anywhere in Canada or the World. I would love to experience living in New Zealand one day or anywhere for that matter. Just knowing I can be employed with a good job, I will be happy.



**Morning Dove Hall**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**First Nations Language Proficiency Program**

I have been involved with language for the past 5 years but have become very passionate about language revitalization especially in the past 2 years. I am a part time language and culture teacher in my community school as well as a drummer. I attend all cultural events in my community as well as the nation. I have two children who are learning Okanagan language as well. Limlimt for the support!



**Vienna Henry**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**  
**Vancouver Community College | Hair Design**

My name is Vienna Henry, I am from the Lax Kw'alaams First Nations from Port Simpson. I worked for Canada Post for twenty-two years, and have recently retired from my position. I decided to pursue my passion – hair design. I am a graduate of the Hair Design program from Vancouver Community College. Looking forward to practising my new talent as a Hair Designer.



**Janelle Hill**  
**GITXAALA/KITKATLA FIRST NATION**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Automotive Technician-Foundation Level**

Janelle is 19 years old. She is First Nation from Gitxaala Nation, which is 50 miles south of the City of Prince Rupert. Janelle was in a culinary course in her home town with her father (Bruce B. Hill), brother (Trent Hill) and her two aunts (Rena Nelson and Amy Aster). She is currently taking the automotive service technician program for foundation level at the College of New Caledonia. Janelle was inspired and motivated by her family to go for the career that she wants to take. She encourages everyone from any age range to go for their dreams. It is never to late to go back to school.



**Yvonne Hill**  
**HARTLEY BAY VILLAGE COUNCIL/**  
**GITGA'AT NATION**  
**Douglas College | Future Teachers Program**

After graduating from Douglas College I plan to attend Simon Fraser University before moving back to my hometown and becoming an elementary school teacher.



**Crystal Hunlin**  
**TLET'IN-QOX GOVERNMENT OFFICE**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**The Office Administrative Certificate Program**

I grew up losing my parents, sister, and my best friend, so education was the only thing I had going right for me, and the only thing I was able to hold onto. I had many unsuccessful attempts to end my life, but my prayers were answered and I was gifted with two beautiful angels that made me whole again. To me, education is a ticket way out of all walks of life. If you believe in yourself, and have the determination not to give up, you will get to your dream goal.

Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have assisted me. Thank you for your generous support.

**Magdalene Korolyk**  
**TAKLA LAKE FIRST NATION**

**Blanche Macdonald | Global Make-up Artistry**  
I am a young single First Nation mother of a four year old daughter, from a small community north of Fort St James called Takla Landing. I am currently enrolled in a well known school that I believe will help mold my skill set to succeed in my future goals of opening my own business that will one day also benefit my community. I plan to bring my skills sets to start work shops in my community to help the young build their self esteem and their out look on themselves and others.

**Mark Lamont**  
**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**

**Camosun College**  
**Watchkeeping Mate, Near Coastal**  
I am working hard towards getting my Watchkeeping Mate, Near Coastal Certificate. The program is about 9 months full time studies. Plus, 1,068 days of sea time on a ship. I'm trying to complete this program as quickly as possible, while still being able to support my family financially. When I get certified, I plan on working on Ferries somewhere up the BC coast as a mate, possibly servicing a First Nations Community.

I wanted to say a big THANKS for the Bursary. I wouldn't be able to do these courses without this financial help.

**Raven LeBlanc**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**First Nations Fine Arts Program**

I am Raven Leblanc from the Haida Nation and of the Naa S'aagaas Xaaydagaay Eagle clan. I hope to be a full time First Nations artist working with various different mediums. In a world that is changing rapidly, it is important to expand one's horizons and learn as much as you can. It is vital to preserve all the knowledge we have of our culture from art, language, and other traditions. The future is always in motion and everything is changing. I would like to be a First Nations artist who is a bridge between traditional and contemporary art teachings.

**Peter Leeson**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALT'SAP**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**BCIT Occupational Health & Safety Certificate**

I have been the president for four years, up to now, of the Greenville Athletic Club, and treasurer for about 20 years. This organization is an all men's club to promote health and sportsmanship in various sports such as basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, and track-and-field. Laxgalts'ap elected me as trustee for 15 years now. I have been Board Chair for over eight years. I am currently completing a Safety Certification Course with BCIT online. I have hopes to move into the position of safety practitioner.

**Miriam Louie**  
**NADLEH WHUT'EN**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Business Management Diploma**

Hi I am Miriam Louie from Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, I graduated high school with my dogwood diploma in 1984. I raised two children and worked full-time until 2014 when I was laid off my job. It was then I decided to go back to school. I used to think two years was a long time, it's not, it goes by fast. I am on my second year and will complete my Diploma Program.

I strongly encourage everyone to continue your studies and work toward a career you love, hard work will pay off in the end. Snachailya.

**Amanda Malloway**  
**TZEACHTEN FIRST NATION**  
**Seabird Island College | Education Assistant**

My name is Amanda Malloway. I am 18 years old and a member of Tzeachten First Nation in Chilliwack, BC. in my life I have overcome many challenges to pursue my passions. I love working with children. I have many nieces and nephews that I care for. In my grade 12 year I took part in a work experience program where I was placed as an Education Assistant. I really liked this; I found it very challenging and rewarding. During my years in middle school, I benefited from help from Education Assistants. I hope that I can help others.

**Talon Manitobenis**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**British Columbia Institute of Technology**  
**Carpentry**

My name is Talon. I am a full-time single father to a three year old son. Throughout the years, I was not too sure on what I would do with my life (career choices) until I sought out an employment counselor who gave me a few choices on up coming courses. I pondered on it and thought for a while until I came to the conclusion that I would be a carpenter. My future goals are to work hard to provide for my son and family for a better future and life.

**Brooklyn Martin**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Music Diploma Program**

Brooklyn is in the second year of the Music Diploma program. Music and its westernized theory didn't come easy for Brooklyn. She has overcome many hurdles to get to this point. All of this hard work is leading her toward her dream of becoming a music therapist. She wants to give back to her communities and she'd optimally like it to be through music. It is her life's passion and a driving force in her life. Another dream of hers is to start an Aboriginal Youth Choir. She would like to thank NRTF for helping make her aspirations a reality.

**Julia McIntyre-Smith**  
**DA'NAXDA'XW/AWAETLALA FIRST NATION**  
**Strathcona Park Lodge**  
**Canadian Outdoor Leadership Training**

Ikt'samgilagame (Abalone Shell Woman) Julia McIntyre-Smith is part Irish, part Dzawada'enuxw. She grew up in Yellowknife, but has many places that she calls home. In 2013, she spent 14 months in Gwa'yi (Kingcome) and found where her true passions lie: the land. She is an amateur hunter, beader, drummer, and cultural learner. Julia hopes to use her new skills to create spaces on the land for indigenous people to engage in cultural knowledge and reconnect to their traditional territory. To learn more about the Dzawada'enuxw culture watch "Potlatch Keepers" by documentarian Lindsey Willie. Gilakas'la

I am so grateful for this bursary! Gilakas'la (thank you!) so much!

**Carey McReynolds**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Squamish Nation Language Program**

I have completed a Bachelor's Degree in First Nations Studies and Psychology and am now pursuing a language certificate. I will be in a full immersion program of the Squamish Nation language from September to April and will become a fluent speaker of this language. In the future, I hope to become a First Nations teacher and then pursue a masters in education psychology.

**Thunder Mitchell**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**Okanagan College**  
**Aircraft Maintenance Engineer**

My name is Thunder Mitchell, I am 21 years of age and thanks to NRTF I am able to proceed with achieving my goal to become a licensed AME-Mechanic. This program will allow me to see the world and open doors for all sorts of opportunities within the aircraft industry, which is what I want to do as a part of my career. After this course, I could go into more studies about aircraft to broaden my knowledge. My end goal is to learn how to pilot a transport style aircraft so I can see the world.

**Petrinia Monk**  
**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Health Care Assistant Program**

My name is Petrinia Monk, I am from the Grantun Clan in Tl'azt'en Nation. I have always wanted to help people and give back to my community. When the Health Care Assistant Program came to the College of New Caledonia here in Fort St James, I saw my opportunity to do so. I look forward to advancing my knowledge and skills to become a thriving member of the community. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to receive a bursary from the NRTF to help alleviate the financial burden of pursuing an education. Musi Cho.



**Belinda Morrison**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALT'SAP**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**Social service worker**

My name is Belinda Morrison and I am working towards my long term goal of opening a business; Art Therapy. I recently graduated from high school and am working my way up from there. I'm full Nisga'a and will do anything anyone tells me I am incapable of achieving. I love working with children and anyone that has an imagination. Do what you love, don't learn to love what you do.



**Trevor Morrison**  
**GITANMAAX BAND COUNCIL**  
**AFOA Canada**

**Certified Aboriginal Public Administrator**  
 I'm currently enrolled in the Certified Aboriginal Public Administrators program with the Aboriginal Financial Officers of Canada. I was elected as the President of AFOABC last September. I have been on the board for the past six years and have been a member of AFOABC since 1998. I am currently the Business Development Officer for the Sqewqel Development Corporation, which is the business entity of the Seabird Island Band. I have extensive financial and administrative experience working for the Gitksan First Nation where I held positions as the Acting Executive Director and Finance Administrator for 21 years.



**Megan Munroe**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**Blanche MacDonald**  
**Esthetics and spa diploma**

My name is Megan Munroe. My Tribe is Ganada (Frog/Raven), I hail from the house of Ksim Xsaan. My parents are Eric and Eva Clayton. I have four sisters, one older, Shannon, and twin sisters, who are younger than me, Amanda and Kelsey. I have one daughter who is my world. If it wasn't for her I wouldn't be where I am today. I am ever so grateful for my friends and family in Vancouver for keeping me busy. I have to say I thoroughly enjoyed this program and all the lovely people I have met who became my family away from family.



**Dakota Nelson**  
**CAMPBELL RIVER FIRST NATION/  
 WE WAI KUM**

**North Island College | University Studies**  
 My name is Dakota Nelson, I am 18 years old and I am from Kingcome Inlet. I am currently working towards my bachelors degree in anthropology. I am not entirely sure of any specific career, but I know I want to work in anthropology or in history.



**Delaney Nole**  
**ISKUT FIRST NATION**  
**Okanagan College**

**Heavy Duty Equipment Technician**  
 My name is Delaney Nole. I live in Dease Lake and I am from the Crow Clan of the Tahltan Nation. In 2013 I graduated from Dease Lake School. I am currently enrolled at Okanagan College in Level IV - Heavy Duty Equipment Technician. I will be completing my apprenticeship, at 20 years old, well ahead of schedule. Once I have my Red Seal Certification I will continue to live and work in Dease Lake. Thank you to New Relationship Trust for contributing to my education.



**Jamie Nole**  
**ISKUT FIRST NATION/NISGA'A**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**First Nations Fine Arts**

Jamie Nole is from the Nisga'a and Tahltan Nation under the Frog clan, and currently resides in Terrace, British Columbia. She is a multi-talented artist who has been drawing for a very long time; it keeps her grounded when she is off-balance, and brings her a sense of identity and connection to her ancestors. In September 2016, she will begin her second year of the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art. Jamie enjoys offering assistance to other artists when requested, and in the future she plans to share her wisdom by teaching apprentices what she has to offer.



**Clara O'Donoghue**  
**SQUAMISH NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**First Nations Language Certificate Program**

Clara O'Donoghue I am 22 years old. I graduated high school in 2012 with my Dogwood

Diploma and a certificate in Cosmetology. I belong to an adult women's volleyball team, which I enjoy immensely. I am currently a student at Simon Fraser University, taking the Skwxw7mesh Language Immersion Program. I feel privileged to be a part of this program that allows me to be more involved in my community. Thank you to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for providing me with a bursary; this will help me with my studies.



**Lucas Pearson**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Motorcycle and Marine Technician**

I am a member of the Haida First Nation and I am from Skidegate, BC. I have just finished my first year foundation course for Motorcycle & Marine Technician at Vancouver Island University. I realized that I needed to continue my education to gain a career in trades. I just finished my course this past June and I have found a job at a marine shop, and I am returning for my second year this September.



**Austin Percival**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH**  
**U.A. Piping Industry College of BC | Welding**

My name is Austin Percival. I am from New Aiyansh, formerly known as Gitlaxt'aamiks. I am part of the Laxgibuu (wolf) tribe, and come from the house of simoogit Duuk. I have started to pursue a career in the welding trade, near the beginning of this year, and I am more than happy to say that I have just successfully completed my level C foundations course. It was a long twenty-eight weeks of skills training, with the U.A. Piping Industry College of BC, but it was well worth the time and effort to get into this field of the trade.



**Sandra Peters**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND**  
**Native Education College**  
**Aboriginal Early Childhood Education**

My name is Sandra Peters. I am from Musqueam First Nation. I have always loved working with children. It's never to late to go for what you want. I completed my first year basic AECE and will continue on to do the second year Special Needs/Infant Toddler

course. I am so looking forward to taking the knowledge I have and teaching our children, who are so amazing to me and the things they say. I love what I am doing and look forward to a great future as a caregiver/teacher for the children.

I am so grateful to receive this Bursary. It is going to help out in so many ways with going to school. I was so excited when I received the email that I was one of the ones chosen. I so appreciate this gift. Thank you again.



**Darien Petit**  
**LAKE BABINE NATION**  
**College of New Caledonia**  
**Natural Resources and Environmental Technology**

I am a member of Lake Babine Nation and a member of the Likh c' ibu (Bear) Clan. Growing up in a small community allowed me to gain work experience in forestry at the local sawmill. I spent the past few years working with exploration companies as a field assistant for Archaeologists. I learned more about my culture during my years of employment. I am interested in building on past First Nation experiences in traditional knowledge of the land to provide technical advice and assistance on forestry when I complete my studies and graduate as a Registered Professional Forester.



**Hailey Pierce**  
**KITSUMKALUM BAND**  
**Vancouver Community College**  
**Hair Design**

I would like to express my gratitude to New Relationship Trust for their generosity. Without the NRT bursary, balancing the role of mother and student would have been extremely challenging. The bursary afforded me the opportunity to manage my expenses without having to stress over work, which in turn allowed me to focus on my studies. The extra time and effort spent on schooling was evident in my final grades. I am excited about my upcoming convocation and equally excited about starting my career as a hair stylist.



## Nina Ney

**LIARD RIVER BAND**  
**Camosun College**  
**Indigenous Studies**

I am a Tahltan women from the Liard River Band, located in Lower Post BC. I grew up in Port Alberni and moved to Victoria to pursue my educational goal of becoming an Indigenous Studies teacher. Not only am I an Indigenous women but I have experienced colonization personally and understand

how this has affected our people today. I believe having this personal experience will help me become more passionate and effective in my work as a teacher. I am now currently enrolled in the Indigenous Studies Diploma at Camosun and have goals to attend UVIC's Bachelors of teaching program.



## Desiree Louis

**STELLATEN FIRST NATION**  
**Northwest Community College**  
**Applied Coastal Ecology Program**

In this life I am motivated and inspired to work towards actively maintaining preservation of our Planets ecosystems and its constituents. Moving forward, I would like to incorporate traditional

knowledge, sociology and biology into my career. My hope is to be an unstoppable force in the natural resource management field, while also providing a voice for Indigenous people in those spaces.

I am very thankful to receive this bursary. In a world where many forces are against us, it's a very amazing thing to have organizations such as NRT to combat that.



## Kelsey Pootlass

**NUXALK NATION**  
**Langara College**

**Associate of Science, Science General**  
 Born in the Nuxalkcm territory of Bella Coola, B.C., Kelsey Pootlass, has five brothers, and one sister. He is the son of Tony Pootlass and June Webber. In a rural place like his hometown, Kelsey helped out with fundraisers for community events, as well as, going to school until he graduated from Acwsalcta School in 2000. Kelsey has more recently committed himself to being happy, and a lifelong positive influence for those around him. After reading the U.B.C. website, and the lack of Aboriginal Doctors, he was inspired to start the journey to becoming an Aboriginal Doctor.



## Lydia Prince

**TL'AZT'EN NATION**  
**Lighthouse Labs**

**Bridging to Technology Program**  
 Lydia Prince is Dak'elh (Carrier) and Cree. She grew up in the central interior of British Columbia. Her curiosity and insatiable appetite for learning has lead Lydia on countless adventures. On her main quest for knowledge, she has learned many skills including design, illustration, and web development. Her ultimate goal is to share her knowledge with her peers and aboriginal youth for the advancement of First Nations people. Lydia's favourite adventures are creating art, travelling, making friends, and eating bannock. What will she learn next?



## Quanah Napoleon

**SAULTEAU FIRST NATION MOBERLY LAKE**  
**Blanche Macdonald**  
**Global Makeup**

Quanah Style is one of Canada's most infamous trans artists. One part fearless ClubKid and another part powerhouse musician, Ms. Style has blazed a train from coast to coast. From Vancouver to Toronto, she has garnered attention and there are few dancefloors who haven't felt her presence. From her outfits and makeup, to her music and show stopping performances, Quanah Style has proven she is a force to be reckoned with.



## Jazmine Richard

**TK'EMLUPS TE SECEWPEMC**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Tourism Management Diploma**

My educational goals are to try my hardest and receive the best grades I can get and to finish my degree on time. My career goals are to obtain a position as a manager/coordinator dealing with research marketing in the tourism industry. I would like to thank my community, family, and NRFT for their continuous support in my education and future career. I feel grateful for the person who I am becoming and strive for positive outlooks.



## Paige Richardson-Dudoward

**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**Langara College**  
**Kinesiology**

I am a member of the Haida Nation, from Skidegate, Haida Gwaii. I am currently studying Kinesiology at Langara College, with plans to complete my degree at UBC upon completion of my studies at Langara. An interest in health and wellness has led me to choose a Kinesiology program, and I hope to return to my community to pursue a career in the health field. Thank you to NRT for supporting me in my academic goals.



## Brett Ross

**LAX KW' ALAAMS BAND**  
**UA Piping Industry College of BC**  
**Piping Foundations Level 1**

I am from the Tsimshian Nation, was born and raised in Lax kw' Alaams, BC. I moved away from home to attend high school and also a year of work. I have worked mainly in the fish plant in our community and a year with our forestry company in Terrace, BC. For the past few years, I thought to myself that I need a change to better myself, gain knowledge, gain experience, and just to try something different. I was so very happy to get into the UA Piping Industry College, a great school to go to, and the instructors were awesome.

I am very thankful to receive this bursary, it will help with my move to search for employment and get my hours to further my education.





**Tianna Russ**  
SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL

**Camosun College | Indigenous Studies**  
My name is Tianna Russ and I am from the Haida Nation. I am currently enrolled in the Indigenous Studies program at Camosun college with intentions of transferring into the Social Work program offered at the University of Victoria. When I graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, I would like to move back to my hometown to help my community. I want to contribute to helping build strong, and trusting relationships between government officials and the people that struggle trusting people of authority.



**Maddison Sam**  
NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN BAND

**College of New Caledonia | Criminology**  
My name is Maddison Sam. I am Carrier First Nation from Nak'azdli Whut'en. I belong to the Lusilyoo Clan (Frog). I am currently working towards a diploma in the field of criminology. Once I achieve this goal, I plan on applying to the pre-law program at the University of Regina. From there I will be applying to law school. In the future, I have big dreams of working for Nak'azdli band and representing our community in regards to legal matters. I will advocate for our right to self-governance and work with others towards achieving a strong, independent Nak'azdli Whut'en. Musi-cho.



**Linda Seymour**  
STZ'UMINUS FIRST NATION

**Vancouver Island University | Culinary Arts**  
My name is Linda Seymour, I am from the Stz'uminus First Nation. I have been accepted in the first year of PC1 (Culinary Arts) and would like to do PC2 and carry on for my Red Seal. I love to cook for my family, birthdays, holidays and our cultural gatherings, I dream of the day that I will own my own catering or restaurant business. I would like to thank NRTF for the acknowledgment and recognition of the venture I am striving for. Once again, thank you!



**Dana Small**  
NSIGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALTS'AP

**Humber College  
Paralegal Education**  
I'm currently taking my second year in the paralegal diploma program at Humber College. I have an enormous passion for law and justice; I deeply believe that my passion for justice and human rights was developed at a young age due to my heritage and surroundings. I'm determined to help others and continue on succeeding in school and later on in the law field. I plan on applying for law school after I complete my current program.



**Kanisha Stephens**  
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX

**Northwest Community College  
Heavy Mechanical Foundations**  
Hello my name is Kanisha Stephens, I am from Gingolx, BC, part of the Nisga'a Nation. I am currently taking Heavy Mechanical Foundations. I have worked in a mechanical position prior to entering this course & this is where I found my passion for mechanics. My ultimate goal upon completing this program is to continue on & complete my apprentice to become a journeyman and secure a position with a respectful company and be a valued employee, also to empower more First Nation women to go for their dreams in whatever sector of the workforce, whether academic or trades.

I would also like to take this time to thank New Relationship Trust for this very much appreciated Bursary. I am a single mother; I would like to be a positive role model to my daughter, she is what drives me to do my very best and this will assist me with reaching my goals. I am currently sitting at a 82% average in my class that is 90% male populated and I am always striving for better grades. I don't only want to pass, I want to be the best I can possibly be. My dad has always told me, the goal isn't to just pass, the goal is to get a 100%.



**Kreg Sterritt**  
GITANMAAX BAND  
Northern Lights College  
Welding Foundations

My name is Kreg Sterritt and I am from the Gitksan Nation and a member of the Gitanmaax Band located near Hazelton, BC where I was born. I later moved with my family to Williams Lake, BC, where I spent several years attending high school. I have always been interested in the outdoors and hands on work, which led me to decide to enrol in the Welding Program at Northern Lights College in Dawson Creek, BC. My goal is to become a professional welder/fabricator and eventually start my own business.



**Daniel Stewart**  
OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL

**Northwest Community College  
Heavy Mechanical Foundations**  
My name is Daniel E. Stewart Sr. I'm a mature student attending Northwest Community College in Terrace, B.C. I have been married for 24+ years and have 5 children. I have been attending NWCC for the past 3 years for short term courses. I received my Adult Dogwood in October 2015. I have been a labourer all my life. Due to health issues, I have decided to take on Post Secondary in hopes of a career change. To date, I have gotten my Class 1 and my HEOT and I'm working on my Heavy Duty Mechanical Foundation this year.



**Samantha Sutherland**  
ST. MARY'S INDIAN BAND

**Vancouver Community College  
Dance Diploma Program**  
I have been training in dance since I was five years old. Over time, my love for dance grew and I have decided to pursue it into post-secondary. My goals for the future are to become a professional dancer and work in a dance company. Arts Umbrella, the current dance school I am training at provides me with plenty of opportunities and experiences that will prepare me for the world of dance and aid me in having a successful future. I am very excited to continue exploring my passion every day.



**Paul Tait**  
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH

**UAPIC piping College Delta  
Welding Level B**  
My name is Paul Tait and I come from the house of GwisGayin. My Tribe is Laxgibuu which is wolf sub crest grizzly. My hometown is Gitlaxta'amiks, formally or also known as New Aiyansh. My career goal is to achieve my Red Seal in welding, which is the highest level to accomplish. I started welding in February 2016 and completed the level C course. then started my lv B near the end of August 2016. I am loving this trade and can't wait to be hired as a welder in the near future



**Julie Vantunen**  
MORICETOWN FIRST NATION

**Thompson Rivers University  
Human Services**  
I am Julie VanTunen. I come from a Wetsu-weten village in northern BC. I am currently enrolled in Thompson Rivers University where I will take human services. I am the first in my family to graduate high school and to attend University. I am working my hardest to show my daughter that education is the key to happiness and success. I worked hard to get where I am at, and will keep moving forward to prove that anything you put your mind to you can achieve.



**Gordon Wagstaff**  
NISGA'A VILLAGE OF NEW AIYANSH

**Douglas College  
Youth Justice Program**  
Hi my name is Gordon, and I am Nisga'a. When I was young coming from a broken home and being First Nations, I found it quite difficult to access resources and help if needed. I now have the opportunity with schooling and the assistance from NRTF to get the education background to fulfil my path towards helping our youth of today, so that they can access resources that might assist with their goals.

I would like to thank NRTF for the bursary, it will help me a lot with my career in becoming an Aboriginal youth worker.



**Cody Wesley**

**LAX KW'ALAAMS BAND**

**UA Piping Industry College of B.C.  
Piping Foundations Level 1**

My name is Cody Wesley. I'm from the village of Lax Kw'alaams, Ganhada (Raven) Clan, Tsimshian Nation. I am 34 years old and have lived in Lax Kw'alaams the majority of my life. I graduated in 2001 from Charles Hays Secondary School in Prince Rupert, BC. Currently, I am attending a Pipefitter Foundations Level 1. This is the first step in achieving my Red Seal in Sprinkler Fitting, which will take about four years. I will be attending Level 2 Sprinkler Fitting in Delta, BC, at the Piping Industry College there. Remember "Respect your elders, respect yourselves, and respect mother earth."



**Lucas Williams**

**OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND**

**Okanagan College  
Pre-Electrical Apprenticeship**

Wai, Incha esquisis Lucas Williams, born and raised in my traditional homeland of the Okanagan Indian Band. My parents are Helen Williams and late father Braden Williams, and my grandparents are Russell Williams, Mona Tronson, and Jim and Jeanne Nichols. My commitment to further my education is a priority for me, and I am currently enrolled in pre-electrical apprenticeship at the Okanagan College. This is a first step to becoming a journeyman electrician. This academic journey and success will assist me with the skills and knowledge I need to own my own electrical business.



**Shannon Williams**

**LAKE BABINE NATION**

**Northwest Community College | Carpentry**

My name is Shannon Williams and I am from Smithers, BC. My family is of Metis and Lake Babine Nation descent. I have chosen the field of carpentry because I enjoy challenge, physical work, and opportunities for growth. It is very liberating and rewarding to do what I love and also get paid for it. I plan to be an entrepreneur, utilizing and sharing my skills with others - I truly want to be a positive influence on other indigenous people to pursue their goals and to become independent.



**Marcellus Wilson**

**CAPE MUDGE FIRST NATION/WE WAI KAI**

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

Marcellus Wilson is from the Quinsam Reserve. Studying hard through-out his years at Carihi Senior Secondary School, he excelled in both Forestry Resource and Environmental Education Courses. Passionate about the environment his past four summers saw him training under the mentorship of Fishery Technicians at Atlegay Fisheries and Forestry Technicians at Capacity. Currently enrolled in N.V.I.T.'s Environmental Resources Technology Program, Marcellus plans on enhancing his knowledge base. His hobbies include years as a Rep Hockey player, Captain of the local soccer team, lead puller of the Nations traditional canoe. Marcellus is grateful to be recognized as a traditional hunter.



**Elsie Yucesoy**

**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF LAXGALT'SAP**

**Native Education College  
Aboriginal Justice Studies**

I'm a Nisga'a citizen of the wolf clan from the house of W'ii Gwiis Yaxw. My traditional name is Noxs Ts'ooda. My goal is to complete the Aboriginal Justice Studies at Native Education College, then complete my legal degree at UBC. The reason I chose legal studies is because I have always wanted to make a difference within our communities and voice the needs of the community. My long term goal is to return to my community and work for my nation.

I am very appreciative of the initiative. It creates resources for Aboriginal people like myself to be supported. I know that receiving this award will lessen my financial burdens while completing my schooling.



**Chesa Abma**

**ESQUIMALT NATION**

**Royal Roads University  
Bachelor of Arts – Communications**

My name is Chesa Abma, I am from Xwsepsum (Esquimalt Nation). I recently graduated with an Indigenous Studies diploma and will now complete my degree in Communications. My hope is to combat the misinformed dialogue about Indigenous people

that is perpetuated through the media. I am passionate about taking what I learn in my studies to give back to my community by supporting language revitalization initiatives and creating opportunities for our youth.

I want to express my gratitude to the NRTF for their support in my academic endeavours. This initiative makes a big difference in my life and in the lives of many Indigenous students. Hay'sxw'qa (thank you) for helping me pursue my dreams.



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

My name is Natasha Billy. I am from the St'at'imc and Secwepemc Nations. I am beginning my third year in the Bachelor of Social Work Degree program, and I will be specializing in Child Welfare. I have always worked as a front line worker and have seen many people struggle with alcohol and addiction. I have witnessed First Nations families torn apart from intergenerational trauma, and I would like to assist the families in my Nation to overcome barriers that they are facing. I believe education is a lifelong commitment and I hope I inspire my family and community.



**Kamana Bikadi**  
**LIL'WAT NATION**  
**Capilano University**  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**

I am a member of the Lil'wat Nation Community located in the South West region of BC. This year I will be entering my fourth and final year of studies at Capilano University in North Vancouver, earning myself a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration as well as an Advanced Accounting Diploma. In Fall 2017, I will continue working on my Chartered Professional Accounting designation while pursuing a career in financial services.

I am so appreciative of all the support the New Relationship Trust Foundation has provided me over the years. I certainly would not have made it this far with out their commitment to helping me succeed. I look forward to being able to help others in my position once I become established in my field. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity!



**Riley Bonshor**  
**DZAWADA'ENUXW FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Political Science**

My name is Riley and I am proud to represent the Dzawada'enuxw First Nation. I am in my third year of studying history and anthropology at UBC. In the future, I am interested in pursuing a law degree. In particular, I would like to study Aboriginal Law. In my free time, I play on recreation basketball and soccer teams. I would like to thank New Relationship Trust for offering me this fantastic opportunity.



**Samantha Bray**  
**STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION**  
**Western College of Veterinary Medicine**  
**Doctor of Veterinary Medicine**

I am a member of Stellat'en First Nation in British Columbia. I graduated from Elmwood High School in Winnipeg, Manitoba in 2011. In 2016, I graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Biology. I am beginning my first year at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and expect to graduate in year 2020. I aspire to open up a mobile animal clinic that will function in First Nation communities that lack essential access to veterinary care. My main goal is to help reduce the population of stray dogs on First Nations communities humanely.



**Mariah Charleson**  
**HESQUIAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Bachelor of Education**

My name is Mariah Charleson, I come from the House of Kinqashtakumlt of the Hequiaht First Nation, located on the west coast of Vancouver Island. I grew up in the remote Hesquiaht village of Hot Springs Cove, accessible only by water taxi or float plane. Growing up guiding for my parents at Hooksum Outdoor School opened up many doors of opportunity for me, and sparked the passion of both leading and teaching. I am excited to continue on my journey of learning and look forward to implementing what I learn within my home community.



**Angeline Gladstone**  
**HEILTSUK NATION**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**

I am Angeline Gladstone of the Heiltsuk First Nation. Just out of high school, I attended Malaspina University College. Shortly after, I started my family and my children became my main focus. Eventually, we made a family decision to relocate back to Nanaimo; there was nothing holding me back from completing my degree. I was reluctant because I felt old. I did it anyway and found that my life experiences, a good study routine, and a supportive family have enabled me to attain good grades. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. Thank you NRTF!



**Chelsea Gladstone**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Social Justice**

My name is Chelsea Gladstone and my Haida name is Xanjuu Gwang. I am a second year UBC student majoring in Gender, Race and Social Justice as well as First Nations Indigenous Studies. I am aspiring to become a lawyer and serve as a strong advocate for indigenous communities in Canada. I am honored to have received an NRTF scholarship for both my first and second years of post-secondary education. Ha'awa (thank you) to NRTF for allowing me to represent my nation to the best of ability as I embark on my second year studies at UBC.



**Victoria Grosse**  
**OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Criminology**

My name is Victoria Grosse and I am in the final year of my Bachelor of Arts Degree Criminology (Major) First Nations Studies (Minor) at Simon Fraser University. As I enter my final year, my personal and career goals have remained consistent in that my biggest hope is to one day return home to Haida Gwaii to pursue a career within my field. Before I return home, I first hope to use my education to benefit other small Indigenous communities like my own.



**Nolan Guichon**  
**ALEXIS CREEK INDIAN BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**

My name is Nolan Guichon and I am Tsilhqot'in from the Alexis Creek Indian Band. Growing up in an isolated community gave me a unique experience in understanding the social limitations that youth face. My goal is to learn how I can contribute to youth by attaining a Bachelor in Tourism Management at Thompson Rivers University. Ultimately, I would like to start a culturally rooted tourism company in the Tsilhqot'in that showcases our culture and supports youth.



**Lucy Haché**  
**GWA'SALA-'NAKWAXDA'XW NATIONS**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies**

I'm a member of the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations. Much of my childhood was spent in the forest or on the ocean. I began my studies at UBC with hopes of obtaining the tools needed to implement positive change in my community and others. I'm now in my third year of First Nations & Indigenous Studies at UBC, where I am learning about decolonization, language revitalization, and indigenous politics. I am also learning my traditional language, Kwak'wala. I recognize the important role these areas play in healing our communities and want to use my knowledge to be a part of that healing.



**Gabriel Hilbach**  
**GITANMAAX BAND**  
**Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Arts - History**

My name is Gabriel Hilbach, I am from the Gitksan Nation. I am in my first year of study in the Bachelor of Arts program. My goal is to become a high school teacher; I plan to educate the First Nations people in my home community to help propel them in contemporary society. I aspire to empower learning in order to give back to my community; as my community has done so much for me through all my years of living there.



**Crystal Howard**  
**MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology**  
**Bachelor of Social Work**

I am a single parent of two beautiful children and I want to show them we can break these vicious cycles that continue to bleed Indigenous people today. I am a survivor and I dedicate the rest of my life to live healthy, strong and balanced. I deserve a great life as do my children. I sure do appreciate what post secondary education has provided me this far and I plan on going all the way! and with this scholarship you are adding to my success to become an unstoppable leader in the social work field to uplift our people.



**Dylan Hunt-Scott**  
**KWAKIUTL BAND**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies**

I am Dylan Hunt-Scott, a member of the Kwakiutl First Nation from Northern Vancouver Island. My heritage also includes the Taku River Tlinglit First Nation from Atlin Lake, BC. The focus of my academic journey has been in First Nations Studies (FNAT), which has given me a sense of grounding in cultural identity. I have really enjoyed the FNAT program because it cultivates a sense of community and guides my education in Aboriginal culture.



**Krista Lynn Joseph**  
**DITIDAHT FIRST NATION**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Psychology**

My name is Krista Joseph and I am from the Ditidaht First Nation. I am in my final year of my undergraduate degree in psychology, with a minor in First Nations studies. I currently work as a mental health rehabilitation support worker at a psychosocial rehabilitation facility. I plan to pursue graduate studies in the field of occupational therapy, in order to continue making a difference in my community. I am very grateful for the opportunity to obtain post secondary education, and hope to positively influence other First Nations people to do the same.



**Shanny Kaiser**  
**PROPHET RIVER FIRST NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Bachelor of Arts – Criminology**

My Name is Shanny Kaiser and I am currently in my fourth year at SFU. I am taking a double major in Criminology and Psychology, and I am also completing a certificate in Forensic Studies to complement my degree. My educational pursuits are extremely important to me. I am very determined and motivated to be successful in whatever I do. I dream of obtaining my Masters and PhD, and becoming a Forensic Psychologist. I am extremely passionate about mental health and the law, and hope that I can contribute to improving this system.



**Damien Ketlo**  
**NADLEH WHUT'EN FIRST NATION**  
**University Of Lethbridge**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies**

My name is Damien Ketlo and I am from Nadleh Whut'en Carrier First Nation. I represent the Frog Clan in my tiny community. I am heading into my last year of school at the University of Lethbridge where I will be obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Native American Studies. I currently play on the Men's Hockey team here at the school, and I look to continue this career path in the pro ranks after I graduate. I also have other interests in music upon graduation along with staying tied to my community anyway I can.



**Madison Krulicki**  
**SNUNEYMUXW FIRST NATION**  
**University of Victoria | Bachelor of Science**

I graduated from GW Graham Middle Secondary School (Chilliwack) in 2016. I've always enjoyed school and received A-honours recognition, artist of the year, citizenship awards, and was voted Valedictorian for my graduating class. I was the manager for the girls basketball team and spent many years playing hockey for the Chilliwack all female team - receiving most improved and most valuable player awards. I am pursuing a degree in the field of psychology and plan to specialize in criminology. I'll be attending my first year at the University of Victoria in September 2016 and plan to attain a Bachelor of Science.



**William George-Thomas**

**TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION**  
**Queens University**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Political Science**

Good day! I'm William, 18 years old, and from Tsleil-Waututh Nation in North Vancouver. For the first time ever I am moving away from home! I'm moving across Canada to Queens University in Kingston, Ontario to study my passion: Politics. My short-term career goals are to gain an internship

within parliament or the government itself in the hopes of working with the government after graduation. My dream is to not only be a Member of Parliament but also to be the Minister of Refugees, Immigration, and Citizenship or to sit as the critic of this position.

I would like to thank NRT for this opportunity and hope it not only supports me in my education, but propels me to greater heights! Receiving this scholarship is very beneficial and will help significantly with the ongoing issue of student debt.

**Caterina Marra**  
**MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND****University of British Columbia | Bachelor of Science - Global Resource Systems**

I am a member of Musqueam First Nation. I have grown up in the beautiful lower mainland of British Columbia and have adopted a love for the natural world in my years exploring it. I am currently studying Global Resource Systems. By studying my passions of health and the environment, I am sure I can make a difference in my community and the world. I would like to help preserve the natural beauty of the world and ensure a healthy environment for future generations. I envision an amazing global community flourishing, learning and working together, happy and healthy.

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

I am currently on exchange to the University of Auckland in New Zealand. By going to New Zealand it has enabled me to learn about other Indigenous people and take health courses. When I go back to UBC I hope to apply this knowledge within my degree program with my focus being in Indigenous health and land and food systems. After the completion of my undergraduate degree I hope to further my education by taking a Masters in the health field.

**Hannah Morales**  
**COWICHAN TRIBES****Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Education**

My name is Hannah Morales and I am Cowichan. In 2015 I graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English with a minor in History. I am now entering the Post-Baccalaureate Education program at Vancouver Island University. I hope to become a secondary school teacher in my community and help students find a love for learning that my teachers gave me. I want to give youth the tools and resources to prosper, grow, and learn that they can accomplish all they desire to.

**Amber Morgan**  
**GITANMAAX BAND****University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - Political Science**

I'm transferring into the Undergraduate Political Science and Economics program at UBC from Langara's Peace and Conflict Arts Degree program. This education will prepare me for a career in Indigenous governance and work towards self-governance and self-determination. I'm looking forward to a career where I can live and work in my home territory while making a meaningful difference. Thank you New Relationship Trust Foundation and Gitwangak Education Society for all your work and belief in me. Thank you to my family for your love and support, I wouldn't be where I am today without you. Ha'miia!

**Rosalee Morgan**  
**GITWANGAK BAND****University of Northern British Columbia  
Bachelor of Social Work**

I am Rosalee Morgan from the Gitksan and Unistoten Nations and I am from the village of Gitwangak B.C. My traditions and cultures are definitely my strength and that's what keeps me humble as long as I remain connected to my territory. Furthering my education has changed the course of my children's lives because of the example that I'm setting for them and that's what it's all about for me. I believe that each positive choice and decision I make, is drying my grandmother's tears because they didn't have the privileges I have today.

**Ed Muir**  
**LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND****Nicola Valley Institute of Technology  
Bachelor of Social Work**

Hello, my name is Ed Muir. I am a father of six and have my second grandchild on the way. I am working toward completing my Bachelor of Social work and hope to continue on with my education to earn a Masters of Social Work. I want to work in child protection in my home community. I want the opportunity to give back to the people who have helped guide me on my current path. Children are our future and it is important for us to protect them so that they may reach their fullest potential.

**Karista Olson**  
**SIK-E-DAKH NATION****University of Northern British Columbia  
Bachelor of Arts - English and Environmental Studies**

Coming from the small rural community of Sik-E-Dakh (Glen Vowell) just outside of Hazelton, B.C., I endeavor to use my education to bring opportunities back to my community and to one day to be a part of the next generation of Aboriginal leaders. I hope to pursue a career in policy development and human rights with a focus on Indigenous issues, so that I can contribute to the advancement of equity as a global citizen.

**Joel Richardson**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL****Vancouver Island University  
Bachelor of Arts - Indigenous Studies**

I derive from a long line of Haida activists and aspire to continue that legacy. While growing up on Haida Gwaii in the village of Skidegate the discrepancies between societal norms and First Nations reality became more and more evident. This growing realization is what inspired me to pursue it at a post-secondary level. Currently, I am in the second year of a First Nations Studies degree at Vancouver Island University. Ultimately, I plan to return to Haida Gwaii and work in Haida Nation governance.

**Robin Roberts**  
**SKIDEGATE BAND COUNCIL****University of British Columbia  
Bachelor of Education**

My name is Robin Roberts. My family calls me Weky, which means brother in Tsimshian. I am Haida, Tsimshian and Squamish. Born in Prince Rupert BC, I moved to Vancouver to go to art school. After graduating, I eventually became an Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker for the Vancouver School Board, where I worked for eight years. My experience in the classrooms and helping Aboriginal students succeed helped me decide that I wanted to become a high school Art teacher. In September, I started in the Bachelor of Education program at UBC in the art cohort.

**Ryan Smith**  
**WEST MOBERLY FIRST NATIONS****Concordia University  
Bachelor of Fine Arts - Studio Art**

I go by Dion Smith-Dokkie. My mother is Dane-zaa, Cree, Saulteaux, Irish and Scottish. We are members of West Moberly First Nations. My father's ancestors come from the British isles. I am deeply grateful to the New Relationship Trust Foundation as their support has allowed me to pursue my dream of studying visual arts. I hope to establish a professional studio practice and to pursue art therapy as a concurrent career, which I believe has many synergies with cultural and linguistic revitalization efforts underway in First Nations communities.

I would like to once again give my most heartfelt thanks to the New Relationship Trust Foundation. Without your organization's support, I could not have pursued this dream and opportunity. Attending Concordia for Studio Arts is already one of the most challenging and enriching experiences I have undertaken in my life. On a daily basis, I am pushed to develop my technical skills, research and develop fluency in various schools of thought, and to reflect on the place of art in our society and more specifically, on my own experience as an Indigenous person. I am grateful to my family, friends and community for teaching me who I am as an Indigenous person, as this allows me to interrogate and develop my relationship to art, be it beadwork, painting, sculpture, or digital media. I know that this experience will be one I look back on fondly for the rest of my life and I thank you for support in making this possible.

**Tracy Spencer**  
**KITSELAS FIRST NATION****University of Northern British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Social Work**

Hi I'm Tracy Spencer, a 37 year old mother of two beautiful teenagers and living strong together with my love for 19 years. With the continued support from family and friends, my educational journey is nearing the end. I will soon have my Bachelor in Social Work to become a First Nations Support Worker in the School District to work with the children of our communities. During this journey I have learnt more about myself, my community, and my First Nations heritage and am proud to have met so many wonderful people and organizations along the way.

Thank you NRTF for this scholarship, it will help ease the financial burden and allow me to concentrate on finishing this journey!! Chi-Miigwetch!!

**Jackson Stirling**  
**WEI WAI KUM FIRST NATION****Univeristy of Victoria**  
**Bachefor of Arts – Psychology**

Hi, my name is Jackson Stirling and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Victoria. I am currently in my third year of a Psychology degree. After my undergrad I intend to pursue graduate studies in psychology and potentially a doctorate in clinical psychology. I want to use the knowledge I gain to help aboriginal people with mental disorders.

**Denzel Sutherland-Wilson**  
**KISPIOX BAND****McGill University | Bachelor of Commerce**

I am a member of the Gitksan nation, from the village of Kispiox. I am a member of the fireweed clan, of house Ts' basa. In the future I would like to return home to work using my degree in International business and potential MBA, to promote the health of the Gitksan territories and ensure all development is sustainable. I spend a lot of time on the rivers in my summers for work, food, and simple enjoyment. What I have learned from this is, is that I would like to find a job that helps to protect our amazing rivers.

**Michael Vegh**  
**HEILTSUK NATION****Simon Fraser University | Bachelor of Science - Environmental Resource Management**

I am a Heiltsuk undergraduate student at Simon Fraser University, heading into my fourth year of studies in September 2016. I will be graduating with a concentration in Environmental Resource Management, and I hope to work in the field of conservation both before and after obtaining my Masters degree. Increasing Indigenous awareness and presence across campus has been important to me throughout my time as a student, and I take opportunities to be a part of many on-campus Indigenous groups like the First Nations Student Association; I am also a mentor for incoming indigenous students (A Peer Cousin).

**Jessica Vinson**  
**TK'EMLUPS TE SECWPEMC****University of Calgary | Bachelor of Social Work**

I decided to pursue post-secondary education after time spent in the beauty industry. I wanted a career where I was able to work with, learn from, and support others in a meaningful way, which lead me to Social Work. I have been very committed and determined to be successful in my studies, as my education and career goals are important to me. I am now entering my last year of studies, and have plans to further my education and apply to a Masters program, where I will be able to specialize in working with First Nations communities.

**Theresa Warbus**  
**SKOWKALE FIRST NATION****University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Fine Arts - Film Production**

My name is Theresa Warbus and I am Stó:lō. I am in my third year at UBC to obtain a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree with a major in Film Production. I am passionate about filmmaking. We need to tell our own stories and share them with the world. I have a wonderful husband and two beautiful children who I am proud to have on this journey with me. We are going to open our own production company in the future to create and support the stories of many First Nations people with a special focus on programs for youth.

**Katarina Wawrykow**  
**SKUPPAH BAND****Alberta College of Art and Design | Bachelor of Fine Arts - Graphic Design and Illustration**

My name is Katarina Wawrykow and I am a Graphic Designer from Vancouver Island, British Columbia. I am a senior Graphic Design Major, studying at Alberta College of Art and Design, minoring in Illustration. I am passionate about Editorial Design, and am pursuing a career as an Art Director. It is my goal to better my community with design and storytelling.

**Austin Whitney**  
**XAXLI'P FIRST NATION****Simon Fraser University****Bachelor of Science - Computer Science**

I am Austin James Whitney and I am a member of the Xaxli'p band. I am following in the footsteps of my older brother and sister by obtaining a university education. I have decided to follow my passion for video games and computer technology and pursue a degree in computer science at Simon Fraser University. I look forward to my first year at university and learning more about computer applications and technology.

Thank you to the New Relationship Trust Foundation for awarding me with this scholarship. This award has given me added confidence and security to begin my university education.

**Kirsten Whitney**  
**T'IT'Q'ET FIRST NATION****Emily Carr University of Art and Design**  
**Bachelor of Arts - Communication Design**

I am a Communication Design major with an interest in editorial design, photography, and human-centred design. I am from the St'at'imc Nation; and my connection to my community is where I see my design coming into practice. Growing up in the T'it'q'et community, I understand that there are many social issues within First Nations communities. I am a communication designer who wants to simplify complex ideas using design processes and design research methods.

**Taylor Whitney**  
**XAXLI'P FIRST NATION****University of British Columbia**  
**Bachelor of Commerce**

I am a member of the Xaxli'p nation, and a third year student at the University of British Columbia. I am studying both Business and Computer Science with the hope that one day I will be able to create something that people can enjoy. My education is extremely valuable to me as it will pave the way to my future successes and allow me to give back to the communities that have supported me.

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

I am a single parent of an amazing fourteen year old human! I have always had a passion for working with young people. Through my own and my son's experiences with the education system I was motivated to create change for our young people. Land and culture play a big role in our lives, and I look forward to incorporating these into my new career and any future position I hold in the community. All the young people in my life inspire me to continue the work I do and persevere against any and all hardships I encounter. Tabi mussih!

**Nicki Wolfenden**  
**GITANMAAX BAND****Thompson Rivers University**  
**Bachelor of Arts – Psychology**

I am a single mother of 2 children. I decided to go back to school after working multiple jobs and struggling to make ends meet. I realized the only way to give my children the life they deserve was to get an education. I want to be the best role model possible for my children, and by pursuing an education they will hopefully follow in my footsteps. I am in the Bachelor of Arts program with plans to get into law school.



**Melina Allan**  
T'SOU-KE FIRST NATION  
University of Victoria

**Masters of Indigenous Governance**

My name is Melina Allan-Planes. I am from the T'Sou-ke Nation, with relations extending into Coast Salish and West Coast territory. I have my Bachelor of Social Work, Indigenous Child Welfare Specialization. My current project-based thesis is focused on reclaiming cultural identity through our potlatching ceremonies. I also look forward to contributing a written piece about the work my family and community is doing for my Community Supervisor's website [beingtsouke.com](http://beingtsouke.com).



**Tiffany Creyke**  
TAHLTAN NATION  
University of British Columbia | Master of Arts in Indigenous Community Planning

I am entering the first year of my Master of Community and Regional Planning, specializing in Indigenous Community Planning. An education in planning will help nurture my aspirations towards resuming balance of regional self-sufficiency through incorporating sustainable agriculture and local food into transformative community planning projects. I am interested in community planning as a tool to implement and uphold Indigenous rights to determine our own visions of sustainable development that is both culturally appropriate and legally protected. My mission is to empower Indigenous communities in their health and wellness through land stewardship and local food systems planning.



**Joshua Gottfriedson**  
TK'EMLUPS TE SECWÉPEMC  
Simon Fraser University

**Master of Business Administration**

Weyt-k, My name is Joshua August Gottfriedson and I come from the community of Tk'emlups te Secwépemc (Kamloops) First Nation. I am currently enrolled in the Executive Master's of Business Administration Aboriginal Business and Leadership program through Simon Fraser University. Apart from school, I have a deep love for athletics and the arts. I am a professionally trained and represented actor. Sports, mainly hockey (but not limited to), have

always been a huge part of my life in a continuous quest for balance of every aspect of my being (Mental, Spiritual, Physical and Emotional). Kukwtsétsemc NRT!



**Montana Livingstone**  
LAKE COWICHAN FIRST NATION  
University of Victoria

**Masters of Social Work**

My name is Montana Livingstone, I am from Lake Cowichan First Nation on Vancouver Island. I currently live and attend university on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples. I am at the beginning of my Masters journey and am interested in research involving Aboriginal Child Welfare and cultural practice.



**Joel Morales**  
COWICHAN TRIBES  
University of Ottawa

**Juris Doctor of Law**

I'm Joel Morales, a Cowichan student in my second year of law school at the University of Ottawa. I hope to work as a lawyer once I am finished my studies. I plan to give back to the First Nations community and be an advocate after graduating. Knowledge of the law can help communities in a variety of ways; I'm focused on furthering my knowledge of criminal law for now. I see it as a practical way to help the community.



**Amanda Neufeld**  
SKEETCHESTN INDIAN BAND  
University of British Columbia Okanagan

**Master of Social Work**

In September I will begin the last year of my post-secondary education. I'm amazed at how far I've come and how much support I have had every step of the way. Whether it was my family, partner, mentors, or organizations like NRTF, I have never been alone. I have spent my time at UBCO working towards a career in helping others. The Social Work program has helped me build a foundation of skills and I am beginning to feel confident in my abilities to help others. I hope to find a career working with families affected by mental health concerns.



**Andrew Phillips**  
MUSQUEAM INDIAN BAND  
University of Victoria

**Master of Indigenous Governance**

My name is Andrew Phillips, I am from Musqueam and Sto:lo territories. I completed my Undergraduate Degree in Political Studies at Trinity Western University. I am going into the first year of my Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria. My aim is to finish the program within a year to eighteen months; during this time, I will be completing a community project. One of my goals is to help Indigenize mainstream education in order to help support young Indigenous students develop a sense of pride in who they are and where they come from.



**Laura Phypers**  
LOWER KOOTENAY INDIAN BAND  
University of Calgary | Juris Doctor of Law

I am a proud Ktunaxa woman and mother. I love learning and gaining knowledge. I am a strong believer in the spirit and intent of the wampum belt, and acknowledge First Nations as Nation to Nation with the settler governments. I intend on utilizing my Law Degree to continue my passion towards empowerment of First Nations in Canada. I also intend to strive for a declaration of Aboriginal title over our territory in British Columbia. I love to listen to elders and read stories and interviews about the beautiful, pre-colonial times.



**Leona Prince**  
LAKE BABINE NATION  
University of Northern British Columbia

**Master of Education**

I am a member of the Likh Tsa Mis Yu (Beaver) clan and am a descendant of the wife of Chief Kwah. I am currently the Vice Principal at Nusdeh Yoh - House of the Future, the first Aboriginal Choice School in BC. I have a passion and a love for Aboriginal Education and completing my Master of Education in May of 2017 will be a stepping stone in my path. This will also give me the opportunity to produce quality research and contribute to Indigenous Education. I am humbled by this award. Musi Cho!



**Sierra Tasi Baker**  
SQUAMISH NATION  
University College London, England

**Master of Urban Planning**

I am passionately committed to helping the environment and to focus on First Nation's reservation community design after I obtain my Master's Degree in the UK. This is the only one year program of its kind. I have recently graduated from Environmental Design at the University of British Columbia, and received the leadership award for 2016. I have volunteered in mentoring many First Nations and mainstream youth in fashion design and public art, and am also a performance artist where I collaborate with the arts and culture communities to bring indigenous values to public spaces.



**Hjalmer Wenstob**  
TLA-O-QUI-AHT FIRST NATION  
University of Victoria

**Master of Fine Arts - Visual Arts**

I was born and raised on Tzartus Island, in Barkley Sound, off the west coast of Vancouver Island. I am a proud Nuu-chah-nulth person, from the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations, on my father's side and of English and Norwegian ancestry on my mum's side. I am in my final year of my Masters in Visual Arts, at the University of Victoria, focusing on Contemporary Northwest Coast art, as well as my own traditional carving.



**Tania Willard**  
NESKONLITH INDIAN BAND  
University of British Columbia

**Master of Fine Arts - Interdisciplinary Studies**

Tania Willard, Secwepemc Nation, has worked as a curator in residence with grunt gallery and Kamloops Art Gallery. Willard's curatorial work includes Beat Nation: Art Hip Hop and Aboriginal Culture, a national touring exhibition first presented at Vancouver Art Gallery in 2011 and most recently Unceded Territories: Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun at the Museum of Anthropology. Willard's personal curatorial projects include BUSH gallery, a conceptual space for land based art and action led by Indigenous artists.



**Sarah Dickie**

**FORT NELSON FIRST NATION**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Master of Business Administration**

My name is Sarah Dickie, I am Slavey Dene and Sto:lo, born in Fort Nelson BC. My Etsoo Adeline Dickie started to teach me how to bead and my gramma Birdy Peters tried very hard to teach me how to spin and knit wool when I was young. Now that I am a little older, my gramps Thomas Pierre is teaching me to gentle and break horses. Enrolling in this MBA program will continue my learnings even further.

Mussi cho, hychka siem, thank you very much for your support! I am starting a new journey and it is invaluable to have the support of this New Relationship Trust Foundation- not only financial, but also for recognizing and supporting my vision and goals. The NRTF

application requirements were clear and I had support for any questions or technical concerns, and the assessment process has an amazing turn-around! I was hoping to hear whether my application was successful within a few months, not a few weeks.

Seeing the 2015/16 Student Award list helped showcase the breadth of cultures, education goals and dreams of First Nations students in BC, and I am humbled to be included with them. I wish everyone the greatest success in their journeys.



**Jordan Abel**  
**NISGA'A VILLAGE OF GINGOLX**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**PhD in Indigenous Literary Studies**

My name is Jordan Abel, and I am from the Nisga'a Nation. Currently, I am in the third year of my PhD at Simon Fraser University where my research concentrates on Indigenous poetry and poetics. My longterm career goal is to teach Indigenous Literature and Creative Writing. As a writer, I have three published books (Injun, Un/inhabited, and The Place of Scraps).



**Rachel George**  
**AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION**  
**University of Victoria**  
**PhD in Indigenous Governance**

I am a member of the Ahousaht First Nation and was raised in Vancouver. I am beginning my second year of a doctoral program in Indigenous Governance at the University of Victoria. My work has focused on examining justice initiatives, such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and how these initiatives impact our communities. I have been honoured to continually witness the resiliency of our people. I believe that our strength comes from within. Reclaiming our ways of being and knowing will foster resurgence and the envisioning our collective future to live hishuk ish tsawalk -everything is one.

I am honoured to have received so much support for work that I believe it vital to our communities. It is my hope that through the creation of safe spaces we are able to continue to build on our resiliency and strengthen our communities through the centering of our stories. Kleco kleco.



**Rupert Richardson**  
**QUATSINO FIRST NATION**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**PhD in Education**

gilakasla numwayuit/hello all my relatives. I come from Quatsino First Nation on Vancouver Island, as well as the Nuxalk Nation in Bella



**Layla Rorick**  
**HESQUIAHT FIRST NATION**  
**University of Victoria**  
**PhD in Education**

I was raised in Hesquiaht IR#6. None of my generation grew up to be fluent speakers of our Nuuchahnulth language; our parents' generation do not speak but they understand fluent speech. We must dedicate ourselves to the dignified return, re-strengthening, and sharing of our ancient Indigenous ancestral values, traditions, and languages for the next generations. With continued effort, the lived values and the language that our ancestors spoke in these very same places can become renewed for future generations and thus we will remain ʔiqhmuut - ancient and continuing.



**Angela Semple**  
**AKISQNUK FIRST NATION**  
**Trent University**  
**PhD in Indigenous Studies**

Kisukyukyit! My name is Angela Semple and I am a proud member of the Akisqnuq band of the Ktunaxa Nation. I am currently in my third year of my PhD program at Trent University. My research focuses on stories of Indigenous adoption. It is my goal to graduate within the next two years, and continue supporting students as a professor of Indigenous Studies at a Canadian university (hopefully one back in BC!). I am extremely grateful to New Relationship Trust Foundation for their support not only of my education, but of so many other BC Indigenous students as well!





## Nicola Campbell

LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND  
University of British Columbia  
PhD in Indigenous Literary Studies

Nicola Campbell is of Nlakapamux, Syilx and Métis ancestry and grew up in BC's Nicola Valley. Her children's book, *Shi-shi-etko*, was co-winner of the 2006 Aboriginal Children's Book of the Year Award. The sequel titled, *Shin-chi's Canoe*, received the 2009 TD Canadian Children's Literature Award and was a finalist for the

2008 Governor Generals award in illustration. It is on the 2009 USBBY Outstanding International Books List. Nicola is currently completing her comprehensive year for a Doctor of Philosophy in Indigenous Studies, focusing on Indigenous literatures at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus.

I can't express how thankful I am for this scholarship. It feeds my children, it provides us a home, it pays my tuition, it helps us live. It provides me with the opportunity to continue my research and to continue writing and working in my chosen field as an Aboriginal author. With all my heart, my goal is to give back to my First Nation's community as an author and educator.



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