

Dear Slight Family Foundation and matching funds from the Government of Canada,

Your financial help has given me the opportunity to pursue my dream job of becoming an Indigenous Studies teacher. I am an urban Inuk from Gjoa Haven, Nunavut but have not been to my home community in years. I have been living most of my life in Nova Scotia and now reside in Peterborough, Ontario. Before I attended Trent University, I was a Combat Engineer with 4 Engineer Support Regiment located in Oromocto, New Brunswick. I served Canada for over six years because I believed I could help those who needed it most. Now you are helping me, and I am so very, very grateful for your generous contribution.

With this generous contribution to my education I am now able to fulfill my academic needs that include books, housing costs, food to eat while studying, and especially my phone bill so that I can call my partner at night. My partner is currently grieving the death of her father and so with this fun I am able to pay my phone bill in order to be in touch with her, to help her healing journey, and to be there for her when she needs it most.

This fund has given me the freedom to be myself and to strive for bettering my education and the education of the Indigenous people I support. In the future I hope to be accepted into an Indigenous Studies Masters program, and later, a PhD candidate to study not only my culture but other Indigenous peoples culture to help with the healing journey of living a non-colonial life. An Indigenous life.

You have not changed just one life; you have funded a foundational movement of reclaiming identity and community. I cannot express my gratitude enough.

Gchii-Miigwech, Thank-you,

Samuel Pallaq Huyer