

Dear Sponsor of the Province of Ontario

I am writing to express my gratitude for making this award possible. I am an Anishinaabe student from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. I study at York University in Toronto, Ontario. I am pursuing an Honours degree in the Bachelor in Environmental Studies program and I will be starting my second year in the fall. After transferring from Seneca College, I am technically enrolling in third year courses and I will be adding a certificate in Sustainable Energy. For the remainder of my program, I will be specializing in Environmental Management: Policy, Resources and Conservation.

This support has helped me in my current financial situation, as my job prospects for the summer have been lost amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. This bursary will help me manage and attain my savings goals for the upcoming school year. Because of you, I will be able to pay my current bills, save for food, and find a place without worrying about first and last month's rent payment when the time comes for me to move back to the city. I am currently staying with my family for the summer in Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation.

In the future, I am most interested in pursuing graduate studies in the Master of Resource and Environmental Management program offered by the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia. I would like my environmental career to focus on Indigenous issues in Canada and I would like to work for the Anishinabek Nation. I am interested in positions such as an Aboriginal liaison or a traditional ecological knowledge advisor, but nothing is set in stone just yet.

Thank you for your generous support

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "ZMandamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a small dot above the 'i' in "Mandamin".

Zachary Mandamin