

October 4th, 2020

Dear Sponsor of the *CWB Welding Foundation Indigenous Education Bursary*,

I am honoured to have been the recipient of this generous award, and would like to take the time to say *Oelalin* ("Thank You"), as this award has definitely uplifted my spirits in these odd times of furthering my secondary education while ensuring my basic financial needs are met.

My name is Whitney Dedam, I am currently in my third semester of the Welding Technician program here at Niagara College. It has been an amazing experience so far and I enjoy coming to campus each week to learn, enhance, and grow my knowledge and skills in the field. My current financial situation is a bit odd, in that I was unable to receive OSAP because I moved here from the Maritimes, and as you already know, students have been put to the test with the factor being that we are all trying to pursue education during a global pandemic. That being said, thanks to generous donors like yourselves, we can be eased from worry knowing that there's help like this is out there.

When it comes to my future aspirations and goals, I do plan on continuing my education in the years to come- after I am more experienced in the field of course. My goal is to return to school to become a Welding Engineer. Initially, this was not my ultimate dream but after considering my experience from my previous career in IT and Software Testing, I truly believe I can make something of myself in that defined field.

Thank you again, stay safe

- Whitney Dedam