

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Dear McGuire Purcell Family Bursary,

My name is Nicole Roy and I come from Hoey, SK. I am a Métis woman who continues to learn so much about my family lineage, my culture, and the beauty in my Indigenous identity. After 10 years of working in various areas in health care, I returned to complete my Master's in Counselling through Athabasca University. Although working full time in community HIV care while completing full time classes, I still found it difficult to manage financially with other expenses such as my son's extra-curricular activities, groceries, clothes, etc. This bursary has enabled me to continue with my education as I will be convocating June 2021.

My future inspiration surrounds Indigenous wellness as I am focusing on mental health and addiction. Becoming a certified mental health therapist, I feel confident in my ability to give back to my community through the skills and training I have received in my education. We have recently been given news that my son is accepted to MacEwan University for the fall 2021, and cannot be more pleased.

It is a big part because of you that I am able to achieve my goals and encourage my son to do the same. Thank you for inspiring, supporting, and encouraging First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples in reaching our dreams of higher learning.

Maarsi,

Nicole Roy