

# Jeff Shemilt

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Dear: Sponsor of the KPMG Foundation Indigenous Bursary

October 3, 2022

Subject: KPMG Foundation Indigenous Bursary Letter of Appreciation

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for being honoured with a KPMG Indigenous Student Bursary for my continued participation in the Master of Public Administration program at the University of Victoria. I sincerely appreciate this gesture and the confidence in my program success this award demonstrates.

I am confident your contribution can be viewed as an investment into exceptional academic success, as my commitment to my studies has enabled me to attain straight As, including an A+ final grade for 25% of my total graduate program coursework. As I work to complete the final phase of my studies, this award will cover a substantive portion of my remaining program cost and allow me to focus on finalizing my graduate program by alleviating concern for personal financial considerations – especially given the unprecedented level of inflation we’re currently facing. As my ambitions involve working toward the public interest, I am certain your contribution will ultimately benefit those other than just myself.

Your continued support throughout my graduate program has given me the confidence to successfully gain a full-time position as a Senior Policy Analyst within Natural Resources Canada’s prestigious Policy Analyst Recruitment and Development Program upon completion of my studies. This is one of the few advanced recruitment programs maintained by the federal government and my successful acceptance is certainly an outstanding achievement given that I had to compete against over 1600 applicants to gain one of the few available positions, and they typically admit candidates from Ivy League institutions. As the federal government is now striving to foster Indigenous candidates into senior level management positions, I am confident your support has provided me with a strong chance to achieve an eventual career trajectory at the Director General or even the Assistant Deputy Minister level.

I feel my accomplishments truly reflect the values of the KPMG Foundation Indigenous Bursary program, and your contributions will certainly help me make a lasting impact through my academic and professional endeavours, both now and into the future. I am proud that I will be able to echo KPMG’s strong commitment to Indigenous advancement and success through my forthcoming work in economic reconciliation and increased Indigenous participation within resource-based development projects for Natural Resources Canada. Given your extensive and generous support over the years, I am certainly compelled to represent the breadth of KPMG’s values within my professional endeavours going forward.

I thank you once again for your generosity, your support and your confidence in my academic achievement and professional success.

Sincerely,



Jeff Shemilt