

December 6, 2022

Dear Sponsor of the McDonald's Indigenous Bursary:

I would like to take this time to thank you so very much for your generous support of Aboriginal people and their educational goals.

Currently I am in my fourth year of my bachelor's degree in commerce and am very excited to be graduating in May 2023! I attend the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George, BC where I am also a permanent resident. When the university first opened in my late twenties, I thought it was finally possible to be able to obtain a degree. I started to take university transfer courses at our local community college, but because I had to work full time to support myself and try to attend school as well, I burned out after two years and gave up on my dream. I just could not afford to go to school.

Back then there was no funding available for Metis people who wished to obtain a degree. Fast forward to today and that is no longer an issue thanks to generous sponsors like yourselves! I know they say "it is never too late" and in my case it is true, as I am finally reaching my educational goal at the age of 52. These past two years have been extremely difficult financially, due to Covid and caring for my terminally ill mother. I almost did not enroll this September as when my mother passes away I did not know how I would be able to afford school. With your generous support I can finish my schooling and honor my mother's wishes of completing my schooling. My goal is to work for the Canada Revenue Agency upon graduation.

Once again, I can't thank you enough. I look forward to "walking down the aisle" in June next year, with family and friends in the audience, witnessing my great accomplishment. I wish my mother could be there.

Sincerely,

Michelle Browning