



Dear Sponsor of the Shell Canada Indigenous Scholarship PSE.

Thank you so very much for this generous bursary for helping me with my education and future career. My name is Tristen Brown, and I am currently enrolled in my first year of the Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering at Lakehead University. My childhood dream was to become a designer in the engineering field. Overcoming academic adversity through hard work and determination, I decided to commit myself to literary studies, excelling in the chosen field of Civil Engineering Technology at Lethbridge College in 2016. Supported by faculty, family, friends and employers, I then applied and was accepted into attending Lakehead University to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering. Thereafter, I was and currently am employed as a graduate assistant at Lakehead University and just completed my thesis-based Master's Degree in Civil Engineering with an average of 93.4%. I am now currently working on my thesis concerning “Innovative solution to modular homes in Northern Canadian Indigenous communities subjected to extreme climate conditions”. At the moment, I am engaged in working on state-of-the-art research to help sustainability for the ongoing housing shortage and deterioration for Indigenous communities in Canada by designing a readily available modular housing solution.

The bursary I have received from you for the Shell Canada Indigenous Scholarship PSE will allow me to continue forward with my education. I am currently accepted to speak at the Canadian Society of Civil Engineering (CSCE) Conference 2023 in Moncton and the International Conference of Wind Engineering (ICWE 16) 2023 in Florence, Italy. With this scholarship, I will now be able to pay for all the flights, accommodation, food and conference fees. I would most probably have to decline the conference acceptance without such funding.

My future is to take my research work from my current Ph.D. and work for indigenous communities and engineering firms throughout Canada to deliver such answers and solutions for the ongoing indigenous housing shortage. This research has encouraged me to continue helping others from my communities. Without scholarships from groups and partners just like you, much educational success for myself and others would not be possible.

Thank you again for your generous support towards fulfilling my education with this bursary.

Kind regards,

Tristen Brown, M.Sc.

Graduate Assistant and Ph.D. student



