

Thank You!

building
brighter futures
Bursaries and Scholarship Awards



Prepared for:

Roberta Jamieson Emergency
Fund for Indigenous Students

Thank you!



Dear Donor,

My name is Jody Twin, I am a mother of 4. From the bottom of our hearts, you are helping us find a safe place to start over. Ten years of abuse and we finally had the courage to keep him away and move forward. My second year in Bachelor of General studies, and if it wasn't for school, I don't think I would have ever seen how he really is—the behavior and the name of it. Learning how to get out was the hardest and took a year and half, with this now moving is much easier.

Truly from the bottom of our hearts, it means more than words can describe.

Jody Twin





Dear Sponsor, Inspire Emergency Award,

I am a First Nations woman from Skownan First Nation, Manitoba, Treaty 2 Territory. I am a first-year graduate studies student and mother of two dependents, studying in the Masters of Indigenous Education, at the University of Regina.

The support I received from you made a tremendous difference in me and my family's life. In December of 2022, I made the decision to let my teaching position go to study full-time in the MA. Therefore, my circumstances changed significantly. I went from working to becoming a fulltime student. I was also faced with other challenges such as having no prior and current running water works and eventually taking in my two grandchildren.

It is now going on 5 months, and we are still encountering the same dilemma in a progressive reserve, Opaskwayak, Manitoba of having no renovations and/or water works approved. However, the support I received from your organization has made a significant difference in my and my family's situation, we were able to get hotel accommodations in December 2022 for three weeks.

Now, we are continuing the intensity of the battle with the town of The Pas and the Opaskwayak Cree Nation First Nation in getting our renovations and water works loan approved, still without and still battling. There remains to be a Reserve Treaty Land Claim on the land versus a town jurisdiction of land lease tax battle. Literally, we are one foot away from reserve land, and the battle we are in remains to be us in the middle for months now. We haven't been able to get the ownership document to move on so the band can grant us a loan.

My aspirations are to graduate with my masters in Indigenous Education and pursue a position at the high school level and/or at the college level with adult learners. Afterwards, I will further my education at the Special Education level to enhance the knowledge needed at this level, although, I would like to take on the challenge of pursuing Indigenous topics knowing the importance of these topics.

I would like to thank you for your generous support in funding me and my family in our emergency request, as it remains to be. However, it has provided me with the incentive to go forward in my studies, knowing there is supports that will assist students like me to succeed. However, aside from pursuing my MA, I believe my battle is extensive, but I will continue to fight, and it is my determination that will clearly empower me to do so. I thank you with all my heart. Blessings!

Ekosi/Migwetch!

Priscilla Maud-Constant

Dear Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students

My name is Randi- Leanne Montour, an Indigenous woman born and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. I would like to start by thanking all of those that were involved in the generous emergency student fund that I was awarded.

After spending the last four years dedicated to parenting, I have decided to pursue a post-secondary education that best fit my skill sets and abilities. I am in year one of my academic journey towards completing a four year Indigenous social work degree program. I am currently enrolled full-time at the First Nations University of Canada, at the Saskatoon campus.

I am a single mother of three children, my oldest being four and twins that are three years old. Having to switch from online classes to in-person classes has financially cost me to fall behind due to travel expenses. With this emergency fund I was able to work out an agreement with my rental company to pay the arrears owed on my account. This will secure another month in our family home, taking a huge load of stress off my shoulders. This award will also ensure that two of my utilities will remain connected. Because of this I was able to make payment arrangements that are spread out to ensure I do not fall further behind.

I will not allow any more obstacles get in the way of my ultimate end goal and am now even more motivated to finish this term. I would like to extend my gratitude to all of those involved in this generous award, without your help my children and I would be facing homelessness. I cannot thank each and every one of you enough for giving Indigenous students like myself a chance at success and never giving up hope!

Randi-Leanne Montour

Dear Sponsor, Roberta Jamieson
Emergency Fund for Indigenous
Student.

I just wanted to write a letter to
Thank you for your generous
support in the continuing of my
studies at the Brandon University.

I am currently enrolled in the Justice Studies
Program and finishing my Bachelors of Arts
Certificate I am in my 3rd year of studies. I am
so beyond grateful for the help you giving me
and my family. The help with these funds that I
am receiving will be an amazing push for me
in the right direction. As, recently my family
experienced a terrible emergency situation in
where a lot of my funds were taken up. My son
ended up in the hospital for 5 days and we
travelled a lot and also had to relocate which
was very hard on us and just a terrible
situation to encounter right before the school
year . So with these funds, I am able to get
back on track and move forward as I had to
put a few things on hold like bills, and my
phone was disconnected and couldn't afford
furnishings when I moved. So I am so happy I
was able to get this award! My situation is
going to greatly improve because of your
support thanks again, I am Extremely grateful
for the generous support!!



Bonnie Inglis



Dear Sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson
Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students,

Tansi, I just wanted to start off by saying thank you for the support. My name is Tyra Delver. I am currently a student at MacEwan University, doing my first year in the Pimacihisowin program. Its primary goal is to help new students enter their desired program while also helping them gain credentials. This support has been a weight lifted off my shoulders. This year has been a tough one, and there were times when I felt I was not going to make it through smoothly. I am thankful for the understanding of my situation.

I love school, it challenges my brain, and it feels good to work hard toward my goals. In the near future, I hope to be enrolled in the design program here at MacEwan for photography. My main goal is to have my own photo studio.

I hope this letter finds you well. Your generosity and consideration truly mean the world. Especially when my world feels small in times tough as nails. Thank you for the wholesome support!

Tyra Delver

Dear Sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students,

My name is Cheyenne McRae, I am a young lady from the Gitksan Territory, Gitksan means "People of the Skeena River". I have come a long way to study here, far from family who I miss very much. I am studying to become a Welder, my program is specifically for women who want to be in the trades, who may have fled abusive living situations, which was my case. I am incredibly grateful to have this second chance at a career choice, my last career made it hard for me to afford living independently. I am looking forward to a life that I enjoy, one where I can have my grandparents come to visit me and have enough space.



I had just found out about this emergency fund at the right time, because it helped me make the trip home to see my Grandpa, who was in the hospital for quite some time. My Papa, as we call him, is my number one role model. He is so kind, loves his family more than anything and put in 45 years at Seaspan(I will attach a photo of me wearing his Seaspan shirt). He has been sober my whole life and has always been there for me. You made it possible for me to go make his day and ensure him I am doing well in Ontario (he doesn't use technology).

My future goal is to work with Aecon, which is a Union company that is Nation wide. I love to be apart of something big and I love working outside. Aecon also recognizes the importance of respecting and recognizing the land they work on. They have partnered with a lot of indigenous communities and I want to be apart of that. I am hoping they will sponsor me to continue my education and become a red seal welder.Thank you again so much.

Cheyenne McRae

Dear Sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson
Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students;

Thank you for the emergency fund. I am in my last few weeks of Practical Nursing. I am a mature student (53) starting a second career. I am working towards Indigenous mental health. I am at risk of being homeless due to an electrical fire in my home.

I truly appreciate the assistance as it will help immensely in finding a new home. This will help ease the frustration and the stress so that I may finish my schooling.

I plan on working towards Indigenous Forensic mental health, helping people that are involved with the court system that are also dealing with mental health issues. I believe that there is a disconnect between Indigenous culture and mental health medicine and treatment that needs to be bridged. That is why it was so important for me to finish school.

Thank you for your generous support in achieving my goals!

Wendy Lickers-Lapierre



Thank-you Letter Indspire's Roberta Jamieson Emergency Application

Jasmine Murchison-Perley August 18, 2022

Dear Sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Application,

My name is Jasmine Murchison-Perley, as Wolastoqey member of Nequtkok at Tobique First Nation in Wapohnaki Territory, in so-called New Brunswick (NB). I am a Registered Nurse and first-generation academic currently enrolled in the Master of Nursing Program with the Faculty of Nursing at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. I am a full-time, mature student who has overcome many personal and financial obstacles in pursuing education. There are many intersecting barriers often faced by mature students—often deterring them from pursuing continuing education altogether. It is sponsorships such as yours that make these dreams a reality.

Since Fall 2021, I have been funded by the NB Employment Insurance (EI) Connect Program, which was available to full-time students in the province. Early this summer, the current NB provincial government terminated the NB-EI Connect Program effective immediately—severely impacting my income and hundreds of other students in the province. Without contributions like yours, I would have been unable to continue my full-time enrollment.

My thesis topic is understanding the Indigenous new graduate nurse (INGN) experience in transition to practice as a recruitment and retention strategy in Wapohnaki Territory. This work will be guided by Indigenous methodologies underpinned by my Wolastoqey worldviews and experience as an INGN.

Woliwon (thank you) for your generosity.

Jasmine Murchison-Perley BN RN MN (c)



Dear Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund

My name is Leanne Hartley and I'm a recipient of the 2022-2023 Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund. I'm a proud single parent of two beautiful children Khyson who is aged 6 and Mia who is one. I'm a full-time student at the Inner City Social Work program through University of Manitoba. I'm currently completing my third year of the four-year degree program and expected to graduate in April 2024. Before my graduation I am planning on applying to Master program of social work By Dec 2023. If I don't get into the masters of social work program I will work for a year with my degree and build up my experience as a social worker.

When I made the choice to attend University of Manitoba, I knew I would be receiving an excellent education. However, with the help of this bursary, I will be able to further increase my chances of success as unexpected medical bills have arrived with both of my children, Khyson and Mia. Receiving the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund has reinforced my belief in myself and in my ability to keep achieving my dreams as I no longer have to drop out of school to pay for the unexpected medical bills.

I wanted to express my deep appreciation for your generosity in sponsoring this scholarship, which will help assist me greatly with my education costs. I am honored to receive this bursary and I am very grateful for the opportunities it will provide me. Once again, I want to thank you for investing in my future and in future generations and driving me to attain a higher education.

Kind Regards, Thank you (Miigwetch)

Leanne Hartley

I would like to thank the sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students for allowing me to be a recipient. This funding came at a time when I was under hardship and stress. I did not have a secured place over the holiday season, after plans of sharing an accommodation with other students fell through and the inflated costs of holiday housing, I was put in a situation that was concerning. Having access to this funding helped me tremendously. I was able to find a place over the holiday season and be mentally able to enjoy my stay.

Thank you so very much for your dedication and kindness in alleviating the emergency financial burden that students can be in and is a part of life.

In Good Spirit,
Katie Pyson



Dear sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund for Indigenous Students:

My name is Shania Bouvier, and my home community is a small Metis community called Cole Bay. I'm in my first year of **Animal Bioscience** in the college of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan. Once I get my **animal bioscience bachelor's degree**, I would like to apply to the college of Veterinary Medicine to have a career as a veterinarian.

This support has made a huge difference in helping me get out of an emergency situation. By having this funding, it helped me become **independent by having income for first month's rent, damage deposit and necessities for an apartment**. By having my own apartment, it also helped me have a safe space to take care of my grandmother who recently passed away from lung/brain cancer.

Thank you for your generous support.

Shania Bouvier

Thank you!

Dear Sponsor of the Roberta Jamieson Emergency Fund Bursary,

My name is Cora-Lee Simon and I was a student in the Master of Social Work – Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency (MSW-ITR) program stream at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. I had graduated in November of 2022. I am writing this letter with deep gratitude to express my sincere appreciation for the emergency fund bursary that I received while in the Master of Social Work – Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency Program. Your generous support has made a significant impact on my educational journey and has provided me with invaluable assistance during a challenging time.

As an Indigenous student pursuing a program focused on trauma and resiliency, your recognition and financial support have reaffirmed my commitment to this field of study. Your belief in my potential and willingness to invest in my education have not only lightened my financial burden but have also inspired me to strive for excellence in my academic pursuits.

Furthermore, your generosity has affirmed my belief in the power of community and the importance of fostering a sense of togetherness. Your support goes beyond the financial realm; it serves as a reminder that there are individuals who genuinely care about the well-being and success of Indigenous students like myself.



I am also committed to utilizing the knowledge and skills gained through this program to make a positive difference in the lives of Indigenous individuals and communities affected by trauma. With your support, I am better equipped to contribute to the healing and resilience of my people. My future aspirations after graduation is to work in counselling and therapy with Indigenous people, mainly First Nations, but not limited. I feel that my personal lived experience, my cultural background, and this program have enabled me to focus from a trauma informed lens and framework, and ensure cultural sensitivity within my work. I feel that counselling and therapy work is much needed within our communities now more than ever, due to the recent pandemic that we all have experienced.

Once again, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your belief in me and for investing in my education. Your kindness has not only impacted my academic journey but has also instilled hope and motivation in my heart. I am determined to make the most of this opportunity and pay it forward by empowering others in need.

Thank you once again for your generosity as it has helped me tremendously with my future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Cora-Lee Simon, M.Ed. MSW.

