

Indspire
555 Richmond Street West, Suite 1002
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Dear sponsor of the Indspire's Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships, and Awards program,

I am writing this letter to extend my sincere gratitude as a successful recipient of this funding. My name is Holly Reid, and I am a Métis PhD student at the University of British Columbia. I am in my second year of studies in the Rehabilitation Sciences program.

I was born and raised on W̱SÁNEĆ territory and moved to Vancouver in 2017 to work towards becoming an occupational therapist. I completed my studies in 2019 and have worked since then with Indigenous and non-Indigenous clients back in my home community. During this time I have been honored to be welcomed into clients' homes and hear their stories. I have learned many things from this experience and recognized my passion for pushing for equity and change is something I need to pursue. Working in health care during the pandemic has been exceptionally challenging both personally and professionally, however, the impact has been far more profound on clients and their communities. As I head into this research, I bring with me the words, stories and knowledge that clients and their families have shared with me over the years. This will inform my approach to research and will keep me grounded. I thank each of them for their vulnerability and openness.

As I move forward in my schooling, this funding will help me with the financial burden of being a graduate student and will relieve the pressure on my family to assist me. Thus I will be able to focus on my studies and continuing to this important work.

Thank you again for your generous support.

Sincerely,
Holly Reid