

Dear Sponsor of the Keyera Indigenous Student Bursary,

My name is Joleen Iron Shirt and I am 25 years old, I currently live on Piikani Nation and I'd like to take this time to give an enormous thanks to the Keyera Indigenous Student Bursary. Words cannot describe the gratitude I have, to be supported as well as given the opportunity to further my education towards my career goal. Being an indigenous working Mother, as well as being a kindship care provider to Piikani Nation, it has been quiet the stress load, but I am very optimistic, and I want to be the best role model to my children. This Bursary has shaved off some of that stress and I am very thankful. Returning to school at a point in my life in which, it seemed like everything was ultimately trying to prevent me from continuing, it feels like trying to climb out of a muddy hold that is constantly moistened. Which also resulted in me becoming stronger and more resourceful.

My career goal is to ultimately become a Social Worker, but I do believe I need the necessary tools and experience to get me there. I am currently enrolled at Lethbridge College's, Child and Youth Care Diploma program and working towards my goal of becoming a Social Worker for my Nation. I believe this is great stepping stone.

In closing, I am very thankful for your support towards my education, I gained motivation and more inspiration towards my studies owing to the Keyera Indigenous Student Bursary. My praise and admiration to you and this is not only a thank you from myself, but my family as well they will also feel the benefits from your support towards my education.

Kyaatamattsino "See you later"

Joleen Iron Shirt