

Dear KPMG GRC,

I would like to extend my immense gratitude to you for the bursary I have received. I truly appreciate these funds and am looking forward to utilizing them towards my education. I am 20 years old and currently going into my fifth semester in the joint Creative Communications program with University of Winnipeg and Red River College.

I originally planned to become an air traffic controller with Nav Canada, however COVID-19 has made it very difficult, and in September of 2020 the company had extensive layoffs along with not accepting any new trainees until the global situation improves. With this news, my plans were no longer sustainable for me, and I had to make a quick decision to enroll for university. Air traffic controller training is paid, and I expected not to have any expenses. Signing up for university was a bit stressful because I realized that I would have to find a way to pay for my courses for upcoming years. If going to university was the plan from the beginning, I would have had more of an opportunity to accumulate funds.

I am so grateful that your bursary has given me the opportunity to continue with schooling. It really made my day and helped me set free those feelings of stress regarding money for schooling. So far, university has given me amazing experiences and I am so glad that I am a part of the University of Winnipeg community. I have no words to express how much this helps me, and I hope you know that your contribution has made a big difference to both me and my family.

With my education, I hope to expand my knowledge and further my connections with others by learning about their experiences. Once finished university, I would like a career in broadcast media. I would like to have a career that positively affects others and the community. In media, I think there are so many people that deserve representation and I want to work towards making sure voices are heard. The education I am receiving will help me further my improvement towards this goal, and your bursary has helped me continue on my educational journey.

I really appreciate the work that is being done to make sure Indigenous students have what they need to succeed. Indigenous students often have difficulty just based on how the system is set up, especially with how schools on reserves are underfunded compared to schools in the city. Things like bursaries and scholarships can really make a difference for youth in stressful situations.

Thank you so much for your generous support. Miigwech,

Juscenta Haligowski