THANK YOU!
Scholarships and bursaries have a positive, lasting effect on students’ lives.
OUR STUDENTS
THANK YOU
IN THEIR OWN WORDS
“I can’t begin to explain how much this means to me.”
Chantel Adams
School of Child and Youth Care
Ramona Williams Memorial Scholarship from Cowichan Tribes

“Haw'aa (Thank you). I feel so blessed to have the opportunity to be offered this great gift. It has honestly been a struggle financially and this award allows me more peace and less stress and also the feeling of support by community. School can be very isolating and difficult and it is very reassuring when people are so generous in supporting me. My future goals and dreams are to incorporate both my traditional/spiritual practices with my academic practices. I want to help others in whatever capacity I can hold for them. I am lucky to have such an amazing organization and community supporting me. Haw'aa, haw'aa, haw'aa.”
My name is Kathlynn Ahern and I am a 26 year old International Graduate student, studying Public Health, with a concentration on Indigenous Peoples' Health. I graduated from U of T and spent the following years serving with the United States Peace Corps. While in Panama I lived with the Indigenous Ngaobe people. This passion brought me to UVic, specifically to Indigenous Health. It is here, among the school’s wonderful faculty that I have found my calling in life. Thank you for this contribution to my education and my future.
I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your generous donation towards my award. The award reaffirms that my hard work and persistent efforts are truly worth it, especially since my partner and I just had our first born child. I chose UVic because of its diverse learning environment, strong attention to cultural competency, and it offers an Indigenous specialization in my program. I come from the Ahousaht First Nation of the Nuu’chah’nulth people. My goals and dreams are to open up a group home for Indigenous children and youth. Eventually I would like to adopt Indigenous children who might otherwise be separated in the care system. Klecok kleco (thank you).
Kayli Busch
Nursing
Royal Jubilee Hospital Auxiliary Elsa Groundwater Scholarship

Your generous award has allowed me to focus solely on my studies and has significantly alleviated financial stress. I am currently doing my peri-operative training at Royal Jubilee Hospital, and I am absolutely loving it! I cannot thank you enough.”
TREENA DECKER
Social Work
Tolmie-Wood Scholarship

As a single parent, I worked hard to put both of my children through University and then with their encouragement decided to pursue my own education. Awards like this one made it possible for me to get my degree. I am already working in the fields of Social Work as a counsellor supporting women who have experienced violence and/or other types of abuse. People like you make an incredible difference to students like myself and those we work with. Thank you for being part of my transformational journey.
KRISTY DYSON
Social Work
Phil Petersen Scholarship

"Social Work is where I want to be and over the last six years I did whatever I could to get where I am right now. I have a diploma, a degree, a loving husband, two daughters, and in June I will walk across the stage to receive my BSW degree.

I am very grateful to have received this scholarship; being a full-time student with a family living on one income has been stressful at times. Thank you so much for your support in helping me reach my dream!"
SANDRA GORDON
Nursing
Jessie H. Mantle Fellowship in Nursing

I began my nursing education in 1973 and have continued to work and study in nursing over the years receiving my Master’s degree in 2004 and now working on my PhD. Over the past two decades my focus in nursing practice and research has been older adults and more specifically older adults living with dementia. I currently teach at Mount Royal University and collaborate with Parkinson Alberta, Silvera for Seniors Housing and the Calgary Drop In Centre as a way of enriching our student learning experiences regarding older adult health. I would like to say again, how very grateful I am to receive this very generous scholarship that will support my ongoing doctoral studies at the University of Victoria.
SHANE KEEPNESS
Indigenous Governance Program
CTW Fellowship

“I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your award. I can now afford to pay rent and tuition as I start my PhD.”

My field of research is in food sovereignty, land-based practices, and Indigenous masculinity. I want to become a full-time professor, if possible.

Your financial contributions have allowed me to continue my studies, to create a better life for myself, my family and my community. Thank you.”
The award is important to me because it emphasizes the value of the nurse practitioner role to the community. I share the same vision of Mr. & Mrs. Kerr in regards to the need to serve one’s community with advanced clinical care.

Like the Kerrs, I believe in upgrading education in addition to nursing experience to serve communities and believe my masters will help me to achieve these goals. Thank you again.
LEAH LEFEBVRE
School of Health Information Science
Dr. Ken & Barbara Thornton Memorial Award

“I would like to thank you for awarding me with the Dr. Ken and Barbara Thornton Memorial Award. This means a great deal to me and will tremendously aid with the financial burden of university tuition. I am currently entering into my third year at UVic and very much enjoy Health Information Science and being a part of the Course Union, hosting events. I am excited for the co-op opportunities that this program provides. I believe they will help me to reach my goals by providing me with practical experience.”
Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness! Your invaluable gift not only supports me financially but also spiritually inspires me. When I immigrated to Canada in 2007, I realized that I could not work as a pathologist anymore. I went back to high school again in Vancouver and graduated from high school with straight A+. Due to financial difficulty, I didn't apply for university study immediately instead started doing labor jobs to save money for further study. If I couldn't get your generous and meaningful financial support, it's almost impossible for me to make my dream come true. I hope that I can do something for you and help other people in the future.
Mary-Ann McKinnon
Public Health and Social Policy
James and Phillippa Kerr Graduate Scholarship

To receive this award has not only relieved some financial burden, it has buoyed my spirits as I question the decision to return to school at this stage in my life.

So often I have felt alone in my journey, and this acknowledgement has somehow lifted that weight.
Noor Mumin
School of Health Information Science
Denis and Pat Protti Bursary

Noor Mumin spent the first 20 years of his life in a refugee camp in Kenya.

He says, “After completing my high school in Kenya and performing well, I got selected from among the applicants from three refugee camps in Kenya and received a one-year scholarship award at University of Victoria.

Without your generous donation, achieving my career objectives would be very hard due to financial stress. Thank you again for your generosity. Your assistance will never be forgotten.”
I was so pleased to receive this award. I expect that completion of an MPA will help me be a better leader in this field and will equip me well for a senior administrative role somewhere within the province. Your support of continued education and development is appreciated and is integral to the continued betterment of our collective society.
I am extremely grateful that I was selected to receive this award. My goal is to critically assess the state of public health issues in BC and understand the current social policies that deal with these issues. This award has lightened my financial burden and will allow me to focus on my studies and succeed in learning and developing skills that will prepare me for a career in public health. Thank you again for this support, it has truly made me feel I belong in the program.
I was extremely grateful to receive the benefit of this generous award. As a student, finances are always a struggle. It makes a big difference to receive this kind of support. I chose UVic because I am pursuing a career in the BC civil service and I wanted to take advantage of the many great co-op opportunities that UVic’s MPA program makes available. To date I have worked at Environment and Climate Change Canada in Ottawa and as a project analyst with Pacific Gateway Branch of the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. You support is opening new doors for me and new career trajectories. Thank you.”
AMY PHIPPS
Public Administration
Joanne and David Bate Scholarship

As a second year MPA student the timing of this award could not be better. My partner and I are planning a wedding and relief from tuition payments is deeply appreciated as we make plans to launch our long-term careers. I am passionate about citizen-centred, evidence-driven public policy and the UVic MPA program has been instrumental in allowing me to expand my influence and explore. I think a good public servant has integrity, courage, and a passion for service— all values I hope to bring forward with me in my career. Thank you again for your support of my education.
Thank you so much for your contribution to the UVic Youth In Care Awards. Growing up in care and being Indigenous has presented many challenges and has made being able to get a degree more difficult. I strongly believe in the importance of connection to culture, community and family while being in care. I know that if it were not for my culture I wouldn’t have the strength or confidence to attend post-secondary. I am thankful for all of the support and kindness the instructors and counsellors at UVic have shown me.
DARYL RODDAN
Nursing
Glenn and Pauline Greene Scholarship

“Nurses have the power and privilege to invoke real change in the health care system through leadership, advocacy and political engagement.

Your contribution to the education of future nurses through scholarship is so incredibly generous and I am so honoured and appreciative that I was chosen to receive it.

Thank you.”

Daryl lives in the Okanagan with his wife, Megan, who has a rare genetic disorder, and their two children. Daryl was inspired to become a nurse after complications following the birth of his son, Henry. Scholarships made it possible for Daryl to succeed in his studies and provide for his family.
“This award means so much to me, because the biggest barrier to my education is my financial situation. Ever since I came out of care as an emancipated youth, I have struggled getting on my feet. I’ve always known education is the path to success. I have invested in 2 years of my education, however the cost of moving to Victoria has put me in debt. I chose to come to UVic because of UVic’s leading work with fisheries conservation, environmental studies and indigenous law have really inspired me as a first nations student. I want to thank the Sisters of St. Ann again, for helping me to achieve my goals, and inspiring me to do better and work harder. I feel your support and I know that it will make all the difference.”
“Thank you very much for this generous scholarship. I was elated to receive the Elsa Groundwater Scholarship, which has not only aided me financially, but has provided a sense of recognition and encouragement for the hard work that has gone into maintaining high standards of performance within my nursing education and practice. I am specializing in emergency and perioperative nursing and will continue to strive for excellence. I am forever grateful for your contribution. Thank you again.”
“The path to post-secondary education is at times fraught with challenges, burdens and dangers of both the financial and mental kind, so to you, I extend my thanks. In pursuing the studies of Physics, Environmental Studies and Biochemistry formally and Philosophy, Literature, Politics and History informally, I have come to realize that a body of knowledge which humanity can claim to know can be likened in terms of proportion to the comparison between a pebble and the beach on which it lies. With this scholarship I hope to be able to continue to reach beyond boundaries, dissolving distinctions, connecting trains of thought in order to root out truth and fact. Again, I extend to you my sincerest gratitude.”