



CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY
NIB Trust Fund

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Individual Success Stories 2016-2017



Corrina Sparrow

Musqueam Indian Band, British Columbia

Scholarship - Masters in Social Work, Indigenous Specialization

“Receiving the NIB Trust Fund was a huge blessing in my life. I am now enrolled full time in the Master of Social Work program at UVIC in Indigenous Specialization. How I live my life every day is a reflection of and tribute to all our residential school survivors and ancestors. Receiving this gift from NIB Trust in this manner was a beautiful reminder of these relationships past, present and future.”



Charles Gladstone

Blood Tribe First Nation, Alberta

Bursary – Heavy Equipment Operator

“The NIB Trust Fund helped me become a crane/ heavy equipment operator. Without the funding, I would not have been able to cover the tuition. I am so grateful that I was selected for funding. I want people to know that there are more ways other than the traditional routes to get funded. Without this training I would not have gotten my present employment.”



Eric Michael

*Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation, Saskatchewan
Scholarship - Executive MBA*

“As an intergenerational survivor of the residential school, this scholarship has tremendous personal significance as I reflect on the residential school survivors in my family and community. A business education will allow me to make a meaningful contribution to the economic development in my First Nation community as well as allow me to fulfill my desire to discover new collaborative relationships in the domain of social enterprise to advance the aspirations of Indigenous sovereignty, nationhood, and reconciliation.”



Marcia Martin

*Mosakahiken Cree Nation, Manitoba
Award - Culture & Language
Residential School Survivor*

“I was very happy, because being a student can be very stressful financially. It helped me bring myself closer to my education dream of becoming a teacher. I truly believe that when a student receives help financially, it makes them feel good inside. I am very thankful for receiving the scholarship.”



Jules Koostachin

*Attawapiskat First Nation, Ontario
Scholarship - PhD Program*

“When I heard that I was a successful recipient I felt honored and I also felt a sense of relief. I was given a gift, and I am forever grateful. I feel that my work has been acknowledged. My grandparents wanted me to stop the cycle, and they believed in me. They made me who I am today. I am consistently working toward making good choices, choices that will benefit my family and my community.”



Paul Ottereyes

*Cree First Nation of Waswanipi, Québec
Awards - Wild Mushroom Picking
Residential School Survivor*

“I pick mushrooms in the community of Chisasibi where the population is 5,600. I’ve shown people how to pick them up and cook them, with amazement they all were in awe what grows in their surrounding community. Now there’s talk about doing a Wild Matsutake Festival in Chisasibi in September 2017 which the picking season is from September 1st to 30th.”



Katrina Sabocie

*Kingsclear First Nation, New Brunswick
Scholarship - Personal Support Worker*

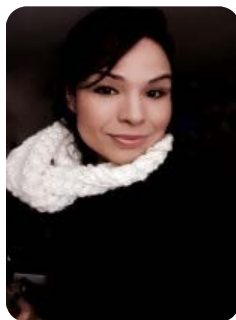
“My goal is to be in my community, giving back as much as I can, but also focusing on my community elders and youth. I say this because our elders are our teachers and the youth is going to one day be our leaders. I want to show them, that through hard work and dedication, no matter where you come from, you really can obtain all your goals and dreams.”



Dennis Gould

*Waycobah First Nation, Nova Scotia
Scholarship - Bachelor of Commerce*

“I am planning on returning to my community in the hopes of becoming an asset for the community's future goals. I consider myself very fortunate to come from a close community where family values are paramount. For the past several years, the elders and the leaders of the community have been very supportive of me. I hope to return that same supportive attitude to my community.”



Jackie Jules

*Teslin Tlingit Council, Yukon
Scholarship - Masters in Nursing*

“I believe that Nurse Practitioners in Canada will have a huge role in ensuring that all Canadians, including Aboriginal people have access to primary care services, which is a documented concern across Canada, particularly in Aboriginal Communities. The NIB trust fund has helped both my family and I have a balanced and healthy life while going through all the challenges of acquiring a Master’s degree.”



Dexter James

*Canadian Métis Council, British Columbia
Scholarship - MD Program*

“When I first got into medical school my two biggest fears was having to move away from my family and the impending financial stressors of medical school. NIB Trust Fund has helped to ease this burden. I cannot express how grateful I am to have received support from this fantastic organization as it helped me to achieve my educational goals. I hope to one day have the necessary skills to give back to my community.”



Laura Burnouf

*La Ronge-Jim Brady Métis Local #19, Saskatchewan
Award - Traditional Language
Residential School Survivor*

“The funds that were awarded to me had a big impact in terms of making it easier in carrying out my vision and action plan of working with my community in language revitalization. I am continuing to schedule more meetings in my community in order to work with the Michif language and to create awareness in language revitalization. The funds also made it possible to document and record the Michif language as spoken by the Elders.”