

# The Westlander | Fall 2018

The official newsletter of the Westland Foundation



# **President's Message**

#### Welcome to the fall issue of The Westlander!

In this issue, we introduce you to three 2018-2019 Westland Scholars; we take a glance at how the past months went; and we share with you our anticipated activities.

First, let me thank our donors and volunteers for their steadfast support. Because of their combined efforts, the fundraising breakfast held in the spring was a remarkable success. As a result of the breakfast, we raised and endowed \$30,000 with the University of Manitoba Westland Foundation Education Fund (WFEF).

Thanks to all the generous gifts, we awarded approximately \$100,000 in total scholarships to more than 160 students for this 2018-2019 academic year, including year two scholarships to Red River College Westland Scholars.

I also thank the Westland Scholars for stepping up as volunteers. Thank you for assisting in our events and coordinating various activities. I am excited about your future progress.

With our donors, volunteers and scholars' active participation, I look

- Meet the Westland Scholars | 2
- Westland Scholars Honouring Westland Volunteers | 3
- May October 2018 at a Glance | 4 5
- Future Activities | 5-6

forward to the coming months with high hope. As we approach the end of 2018, we continue to be inspired to provide every inner-Winnipeg student with a post-secondary scholarship. On behalf of the Westland Board, THANK YOU for your unwavering support of the Education Fund. I look forward to your continued participation.

JOHN PRYSTANSKI





**University of Manitoba** 

**Zoe Quill** is delighted to have been awarded a WFEF Scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Zoe is a Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute graduate. She is working towards her bachelor's degree in genetics at the University of Manitoba. She plans to go to medical school to achieve her goal of working for the National Microbiology Laboratory.

Continued on page 2

## **Meet the Westland Scholars**



#### **Red River College**

**Neill Juan** completed high school at Sisler in 2016. He is now in his final year in Red River College's business administration program. Neill is pleased to have received a second WFEF Scholarship this fall.

Neill says it is hard to balance his time effectively while in college. He worries about how long he will still be in school, the hours to put in for the bills and the time left to help around the house.

"With the two scholarships, I don't have to worry as much and can focus more on furthering my education," says Neill.

He adds that reflecting on being a Westland Scholar and all of the help he receives inspires him always to try his best.

Neill is forever grateful and proud to be a Westland Scholar. He would also love to be a Westland Donor someday.



#### **University of Winnipeg**

St. John's High School graduate **Emily Shemluk** is a recipient of a 2018-2019 WFEF Scholarship.

Emily pursues an education degree at the University of Winnipeg. She says she would not be continuing to attend university if not for the Westland Scholarship. She thanks the Westland Donors for making post-secondary education possible not only for her but other students.

Emily dreams to be a teacher and a role model to children. She says, "I want children to know that anything is possible with hard work and perseverance. I want to be someone they can trust and look up to."

Emily believes that with her family and the supports around her, she can be the teacher that she wants to be.

#### From page 1

Zoe understands that any goals come with challenges. She admits stress and doubt are common and are the most difficult to handle. With support from different sources, she believes she can overcome the challenges and advance toward her goal.

Zoe shares her love for volunteering. She supports cultural events focusing on the beauty of being Indigenous and aiming at preserving Indigenous traditions.

She says, "Our community needs diversity to rise into the future. Every individual is unique. Everyone plays his part in his unique way."

She also volunteers with We Day, the Winnipeg School Division Science Fair and Winnipeg Harvest.

Zoe is thankful to Westland Donors and Volunteers for assisting in her post-secondary education. She notes the scholarship does not only lighten the financial burden and stress but creates a supporting, encouraging and trusting environment.

"I am motivated to continue to thrive in my academic life. I feel great knowing that people believe in me and want me to succeed," says Zoe.



# **Westland Scholars Honouring Westland Volunteers**

Congratulations to the Westland Scholars for a meaningful Volunteer Appreciation Reception they organized last September 20.

The scholars together with Westland Donors and Guests dedicated the Reception to honouring the Westland Volunteers and their important work for the Foundation.

Two-time Red River College Westland Scholars Jessie Reyes and Sarabjot Kainth emceed the event.

New scholars Missie Gatoro (Red River College), Jordynne Austria (UWinnipeg) and Stephanie Decena (UManitoba) acknowledged the Westland Volunteers and Donors for their contribution to their education. As a refugee, Missie stressed the value of a college education and the Westland Scholarship.

Westland Donor Doris Mae Oulton highlighted the impact of educational support and its spin-off benefits, notably for

young women. She commended the scholars for being grateful for the Westland Scholarship and paying it forward.

Westland Volunteer Ernie Gilroy complimented Westland's celebration of its volunteer efforts be it big or small. Ernie affirmed his continued support for Westland Scholars who will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Garry Wiebe provided accommodation for the Reception while Kathy Corbel (Tim Hortons - Morris, MB), Neil Navarro (Pizza Pizza Ltd.) and Red River College's Karen McDonald and Elena Grinshteyn provided for the delightful snacks.

Westland thanks members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, Dr. Jon Gerrard and Janice Morley-Lecomte who attended the Reception and cheered for our incredible Westland Volunteers.





### **MAY - OCTOBER 2018 AT A GLANCE**



### 12th Breakfast Held

Heartfelt thanks to our 38 volunteers and 246 guests who came out to support our 12th Breakfast. With all your significant contributions, the 12th Breakfast held May 2nd was a huge success, thank you!!



#### **Grade 12 Convocations Attended**

Last June to July 2018, Westland attended the convocation ceremonies of Children of the Earth, R.B. Russell and St. John's high schools. Westland recognized a total of 49 brilliant students during the ceremonies.

With help from the Westland Volunteers, Westland anticipates attending the 2019 graduation ceremonies of all senior high schools within its boundaries.

# Westland Foundation Scholars' Committee Launched

August 2018 marked the launching of the Westland Scholars' Committee. The Committee's primary role is to coordinate the Westland Scholars' activities throughout the year.

Westland acknowledges the Westland Scholars' Committee:

Chair: Jessie Reyes (2017 & 2018 Scholar, RRC)

#### **Members:**

- Duyen Chau pioneer volunteer (2015 Scholar, UM)
- Gerald Trojillo (2015 Scholar, UM)
- Kassandra Ilag (2015 Scholar, UW)
- Anmol Mann (2016 Scholar, UM)
- Calvin Loi (2016 Scholar, UM)
- Kristian Escoto (2016 Scholar, UW)
- Sarabjot Kainth (2017 & 2018 Scholar, RRC)



Watching the Committee's work these past months, many other scholars have been encouraged to join and help organize the scholars' activities.

Stay tuned for more Westland Scholars' news.

## MAY - OCTOBER 2018 AT A GLANCE

# Mayor Brian Bowman Announced the 2018-2019 Scholarship



Westland is thrilled to have had His Worship Mayor Brian Bowman make the announcement that Westland will disburse \$100,000 in scholarships for the 2018-2019 academic year. Westland thanks the Mayor for taking the time to bring this encouraging news to inner-Winnipeg students.

Westland is grateful to the following news outlets for sharing the scholarship announcement with the community:

- CJOB's Geoff Currier Show | October 11, 2018 segment
- Punjab Today | October 2018 issue
- Pilipino Express | Westland Foundation's \$100K
   for scholarships | October 16, 2018
- Winnipeg Free Press The Metro | Affording the opportunity to make an impact by Eva Wasney, October 22, 2018

If you have not watched the Mayor's announcement yet, here's the link:

Mayor Bowman's Message to Inner-Winnipeg Students

# **FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

With your much-needed support, Westland looks forward to implementing the following activities during the first half of 2019:



### **Logo Design Contest**

Hoping to engage with the younger generation, Westland is inviting all Winnipeg Grades 7 to 12 students to join its logo design contest. The contest's goal is to improve Westland's logo and general brand awareness.

The contest will be held from **December 2018 to February 2019.** 

Watch out for more details.

## **FUTURE ACTIVITIES**



### **Scholars' Reception**

The Westland Scholars' Committee will host its first scholars' reception on **February 13, 2019**. The reception will be an evening of conversation around higher education and its impact on inner-Winnipeg communities.

All past and present WFEF Scholarship recipients are welcome to attend the reception.

The Westland Scholars' Committee will provide more information soon.



### 13th Fundraising Breakfast

Together with Red River College Development Office, Westland is now gearing up for its 13th Fundraising Breakfast! Westland will donate the Breakfast proceeds to Red River College Westland Foundation Education Fund.

Westland has booked **May 15, 2019, Wednesday at the RBC Convention Centre** for the Breakfast.

Please mark the date on your calendar!

### **Internship Program**

Westland is excited to host the University of Winnipeg - PACE Internship in 2019.

#### **About the UW - PACE Internship**

Westland aims to provide students with work experience within their study areas. Its ultimate goal is to prepare students for their upcoming career search.

Westland's internship needs are in the areas of fundraising, communications, public relations and marketing, programming, special events and projects and general administrative support.

Westland calls for other post-secondary schools' participation.

For inquiries, contact Marilyn Camaclang at 204 960 6771 or westlandfoundationinc@gmail.com



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