

2018 Westland Foundation Education Fund *Breakfast Updates*



(L-R) Westland Director Adam Smoluk with Westland Scholars Duyen Chau & Gerald Trojillo



The Honourable Ian Wishart



Guest speaker Gregg Hanson



Westland Scholar Allyn Santos, Red River College



Sisler High School Jazz Combo



Doug Mercer



Raeden Bricklin
St. John's High School



Awarding of Westland Volunteers Allen & Bev Harasymuk & Walter Silicz

The Westland Foundation's board, volunteers and scholars are pleased to thank all sponsors, donors and guests for the remarkable success of the 2018 Westland Foundation Education Fund (WFEF) Breakfast which was held on May 2nd at the RBC Convention Centre.

Westland gives special thanks to honorary board member James Cohen for sponsoring this year's Breakfast.

Because of your much-appreciated financial contributions, Westland anticipates over \$35,000 in gross proceeds. Westland will donate the net proceeds to the WFEF endowed with the University of Manitoba.

Westland produced a video to depict how the WFEF has helped many inner-Winnipeg students achieve a University of Manitoba education. In the video, Westland Scholars Calvin Loi (2016), Anmol Mann (2016) and Rialyn Combate (2015) spoke about how receiving the WFEF scholarship has impacted their lives and affected them personally. Jane Lastra, Director for Financial Aid and Awards at the University of Manitoba, added the University's perspective of the positive influence WFEF awards have been. Westland presented the footage at the Breakfast, and the video is now live on its YouTube channel and Facebook page.

In giving greetings at the Breakfast, The Honourable Ian Wishart, Minister of Education and Training, noted that Westland Scholars are role models for their family, community and fellow students. He added that they are Manitoba's

future leaders and will play a vital role in our journey forward.

Westland's two-time scholar and graduating Red River College student Allyn Santos spoke on how the scholarship has helped her complete her college education. She added that she would support the Education Fund and its future scholars as a way of giving back to the Foundation.

Westland affirmed its support of Indigenous youth's higher education with the Breakfast's theme: "Reconciliation: Westland Foundation and Indigenous Youth Creating Partnerships for Higher Education." A partnership has been developed between Westland and Southeast Resource Development Council (SERDC) to increase access to education for Indigenous students. SERDC's executive director Doug Mercer, who was present at the Breakfast, said partnership and relationship are crucial as we walk on the path to reconciliation and healing in support of Indigenous youth.

Raeden Bricklin, a graduating St. John's High School student, shared the story of his Indigenous roots and his dream of becoming a gym teacher. His goal is to be a role model for his future students.

Guest speaker Gregg Hanson invited everyone to play a part in giving every child a chance for a better life. He asked everyone to help our city, our province and our country to become a beacon of hope to the rest of the world for embracing a true reconciliation.

Other highlights of the Breakfast included

Westland Scholars Duyen Chau and Gerald Trojillo, both from the University of Manitoba, who served as emcees for the program. Also, the Sisler High School Jazz Combo treated the guests to one of its heart-warming jazz performances, and received constant accolades throughout the morning.

Ian Clunie, Westland's board secretary, reported on the highlights of Westland's 2017-2018 operation. He emphasized the Westland Scholars' active participation in the Foundation's activities, and he said that they are encouraged to become more involved as Westland develops its Alumni Program, with support from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

John Prystanski, Westland's founder and president, honoured Westland Volunteers Allen and Beverly Harasymuk, volunteers for more than 25 years, and Walter Silicz, a volunteer for more than 23 years. The three honorees have played important roles in growing the Foundation and the WFEF.

The WFEF will continue to impact our community in a profound and meaningful way forward. Your 2018 Breakfast support does that, and your continued support will help Westland to grow and move forward into a better and brighter future.

On behalf of the Westland Foundation Scholars who will be receiving a University of Manitoba WFEF scholarship,

thank you.



Westland Scholars (L-R): Calvin Loi, Anmol Mann and Rialyn Combate

THANK YOU!

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*Guest speaker Gregg Hanson • Doug Mercer • Sisler High School Jazz Combo • St. John's High School
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