



The Westlander

The Official Newsletter of the Westland Foundation
Fall 2016

GREETINGS!

Welcome to the Fall issue of The Westlander!

Last spring, we successfully held our annual breakfast fundraiser with His Worship Mayor Brian Bowman and our scholars from UManitoba and UWinnipeg as guest speakers. We raised approximately \$24,000 for the Westland Foundation Education Fund, thanks to our generous sponsors and donors! Once again, we have affirmed that education is the key to a stronger community.

I am pleased to announce that as of October 2016, for our 2016 – 2017 academic year, Westland awarded 75 post-secondary students with over \$50,000 in total scholarships for the Fall/Winter term.

Recently, Westland began to encourage active participation from our present and past Westland Scholars. In the near future, we look forward to announcing several programs with Westland Scholars and volunteers in general.

Westland considers our participation in providing scholarships to our youth as a privilege and we encourage all our friends to join us as we continue to help raise the educational standards for Inner Winnipeg.

On behalf of Westland's Board and Volunteers, thank you for making Westland a success!

John Prystanski
Founder & President

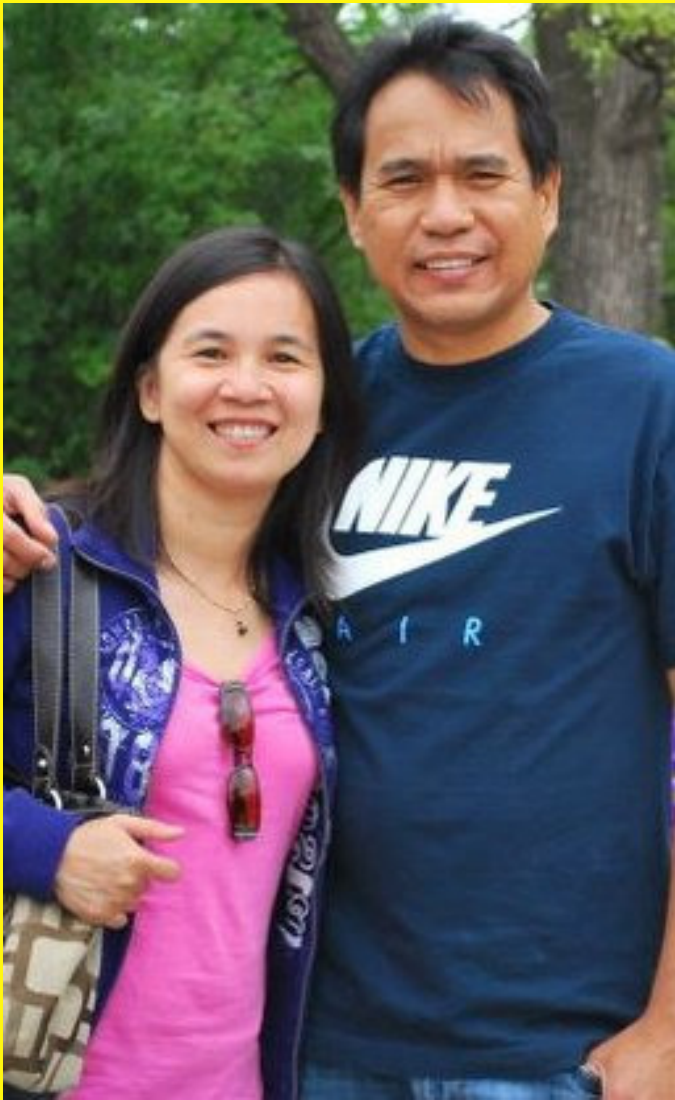


John Prystanski (L) and His Worship Mayor Brian Bowman (R)

"Education is the key to a stronger community."

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Mr. & Mrs. Malapit

A PARENT'S DREAM

In a phone conversation with Westland, Mrs. Joy Malapit says:

“We are so grateful for the Westland Foundation Scholarship awarded to April last school year. We used the money to purchase April’s books. I wonder if I can also submit an application to the Westland Foundation Education Fund for my other daughter?”

The Malapits dream for their two daughters to have a strong foundation by going to post-secondary school. They believe that education is one of the key factors for their daughters’ success and stability in life.

Having higher education gives them an edge in the workforce and opens better opportunities in their future careers.

The older daughter, April, enrolled in Education at The University of Winnipeg. Mrs. Malapit believes that April has a huge chance to make a difference in our community.

“She will be a great teacher and an excellent role model to her future students,” says Mrs. Malapit.

For the Malapits, the Westland Foundation benefits many students. The scholarship given to eligible candidates lessens the expensive costs of college or university education.

“Let’s put it this way, Westland does not only provide financial aid but also encourage students to achieve greater heights,” she added.

The Malapits sincerely thank Westland for the scholarship that April received as well as for many students that its generous donors have financially assisted so far. They commend Westland for being an amazing organization, whose heart and mission is to extend support to young people with dreams and goals bigger than themselves.

With encouragement from Westland, Mrs. Malapit happily pursued the application process for her younger daughter, Angel, who is interested in Science courses at UWinnipeg.

Angel enrolled in Pre-Dental Hygiene at UWinnipeg this Fall/Winter term. As expected, Angel received the Westland Scholarship. Thanks to the Malapits and to parents like them who work hand in hand with their children to make education a priority.

"Having higher education gives our daughters an edge in the workforce and opens better opportunities in their future careers."



Duyen with Chief David Crate of Fisher River Cree Nation

MEET THE WESTLAND SCHOLARS

Duyen Chau

*Bachelor of Science
Major in Chemistry
University of Manitoba*

Duyen is the Power Up! Program Facilitator of the Boys and Girls Club of Winnipeg. Power Up! is an after-school academic support program for Inner Winnipeg children from grades one to seven. Duyen helps in creating engaging content for all subject areas that build upon the students' learnings from school.

Before becoming the program facilitator, Duyen was with the Boys and Girls Club as a Community Summer Investigator. Every summer, she helps new immigrants to improve their language, arts, and math skills. She accompanies them on field trips to orient them to Winnipeg's rich heritage.

"I see part of myself in each of the students. I hope that they benefit from the program like I did as a former Boys and Girls Club participant," says Duyen.

Growing up in Inner Winnipeg, Duyen aspires to cultivate a sense of purpose and belonging among young Inner Winnipeg students. She has been active in the community since high school. She has led Global Issues Aboriginal Networking Team, Student Council, and Sisler

Teens Against Nicotine and Drugs. She was part of Sustainability Circle and Science Squad. Duyen graduated from high school with honours and received awards for her many activities.

Duyen is proud to be called a Westland Scholar. It inspires her to continue to impact a change in young students' lives. She thanks Westland for its selfless contribution to Inner Winnipeg students as well as for its belief in their capability to succeed.

Nareldine Quinto

*Business Administration
Red River College*

Nareldine expresses her sincere appreciation to Westland and Red River College for the scholarship award she received last academic year 2015 – 2016.

"With the scholarship, my one year cost of college education was secured. I just have to put my best foot forward on earning a diploma," she says.

Nareldine thanks the Westland's donors for its support for higher education. She ensures that their generosity is a worthwhile investment that improves the students and the communities they live in.

GET TO KNOW A WESTLAND VOLUNTEER

Adam Smoluk

Film Professional

Adam Smoluk was recruited to volunteer with the Westland Foundation through Board Member Kathe Meseman in 2013. Adam personally connected with Westland's advocacy for young Winnipeggers' education. Encouraged by Westland's volunteer board's dedication and commitment, Adam decided to volunteer his skills for the Westland Foundation's fundraising events.

Adam currently serves as a program manager for Film Training Manitoba and organizes training and skills development for film professionals. As a professional filmmaker, his recent screenplay, *Chance to Survive*, was selected to the eQuinox Europe International Screenwriters' Master Class which took place in Lindau, Germany in October 2016. Adam was the only filmmaker from the Americas to be selected to the program this year. Adam's notable works also include: his debut film *HORSE THIEVES*, which was awarded the Audience Choice Award for Best Feature Film at the Winnipeg International Film Festival and his second feature film, *FOODLAND* was broadcast on Super Channel and was included in the Gem Selections for critically acclaimed films. *FOODLAND* was acquired by Shaw and premiered on the Independent Film Channel (IFC). He contributed profiles on the Right Honourable Edward Schreyer and Manitoba Film and Music's CEO Carole Vivier for *The Heart of Winnipeg*, a book that profiles community leaders.

Adam studied on scholarship at the British American Drama Academy at Oxford University. He attended the National Screen Institute of Canada's Features First Program for Writers and Directors and was the youngest person ever selected to the program. Adam completed Red River College's Human Resource Management and Management Development programs with honours. As well, he holds a Career and Employment Coaching Certificate from The University of Winnipeg.

Adam has received numerous post-secondary scholarships and awards throughout his career. He was the first screenwriter ever to be shortlisted for the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer. Adam was awarded the Future Leaders of Manitoba Award, Investors Group scholarship for leadership studies at the Banff Centre, Manitoba Federation of Labour's Al Cerilli Scholarship, a scholarship for The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Winnipeg Program, and an RBC Foundation Scholarship for governance training with Institute of Corporate Directors.

Adam advises students who are working on earning their educational credentials to apply for scholarships available in our community, such as Westland's. He highlights Westland's practical and responsive mandate of providing educational opportunities to young Winnipeggers who need them the most.

"Being selected as a scholar is a major accomplishment that you can carry with you for the rest of your life," he added.



"Let us be involved in our community and be part of the positive change."

Adam gives back to the community by volunteering with other charities in Manitoba aside from the Westland Foundation. He demonstrates his passion for youth empowerment by his volunteer involvement with the United Way of Winnipeg's GenNext Council as Chair, Youth Employment Services Manitoba as Vice Chair, Advisory Board of Directors for Essential Skills Manitoba as Vice Chair, and Canada Games as a committee member.

"Manitoba takes the lead on community service and volunteerism. Let us be involved in our community and be part of the positive change," he says.

"The Westland Foundation is an excellent organization to volunteer with. I encourage young professionals to lend your talents, skills, and resources to supporting the growth of this outstanding organization," Adam ends.

For volunteer opportunities, contact:

Marilyn Camaclang

Communications & Development Coordinator
info@westlandfoundation.ca

(204) 943 0511

WESTLAND ON DAHLIA KURTZ' LAST FEW SHOWS

Three Inner Winnipeg students and our president John Prystanski spoke to the importance of education on Dahlia Kurtz' last few shows with 680 CJOB.

John was on Dahlia's show on May 17, 2016. He shared about Westland's mandate, the people behind the organization, and the value of an education to Inner Winnipeg students.

The Westland Scholars were invited to a follow-up interview on June 14, 2016. Han Tang from UManitoba, Kira Gregory from Red River, and Venus Sharma from UWinnipeg talked about the economic and social challenges they faced upon entering university or college. The scholars see the scholarships as motivation to move forward despite these challenges.

We thank you, Dahlia, for this opportunity to share more about Westland and how we help the students in so many different ways. We are fortunate to join you in your last few shows. Although we are sad to no longer hear you on the airwaves, we know you will remain an inspiration wherever you go. We salute you for an excellent work you did for Winnipeg through your shows. We wish you all the best in your new endeavours!

IN THE COMMUNITY

A CONVERSATION WITH SUSAN A. THOMPSON

The Winnipeg Art Gallery hosts a conversation circle with Susan A. Thompson, Winnipeg's first and only woman mayor. Susan's new book *Her Worship: Moments in History, Moments in Time* is available for purchase during this event happening on November 27, 2016, Sunday, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the WAG.



Recently, an anonymous donor donated ten copies of Susan's new book to Westland. We will be creating an online event to award these books to ten deserving female students. Details will be posted on our *Facebook page*.

THE HORATIO ALGER ASSOCIATION OF CANADA SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUNG CANADIANS

We encourage Westland Scholars and all high school students who would like to pursue post-secondary studies to check out the scholarships provided by The Horatio Alger Association of Canada.

The association awards need-based post-secondary scholarships to young Canadians who have shown resilience in the face of adversity. The scholarship is valued at \$5,000 - \$10,000 per qualified student.

The application process opens every year from **August 1 to October 25**. For more information, visit www.horatioalger.ca.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION: PAST WESTLAND SCHOLARS

We are looking for past Westland Scholars to be featured in our media and awareness project with Adam Smoluk. This project aims to highlight the work that you do and your contribution in our community.

If you or anyone you know is a Westland Scholar from the years 2008 to 2013 and has successfully completed a degree, please reach us via info@westlandfoundation.ca or (204) 943 0511.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

If you have not done it yet, please like our *Facebook page* and share it with your family and friends. We would like to continue to get the word out about Westland and ultimately, increase the number of post-secondary students in Inner Winnipeg with your support.



FUTURE EVENTS

We are happy to announce that we are now planning for the following special events:

11th BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

We are scheduling our annual breakfast fundraiser for **May 2017**. We will announce the date, venue, and guest speakers as soon as they are confirmed.



MAY 2017

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

As part of our initiatives to recognize the invaluable time and skills given by our dedicated volunteers, we are organizing a volunteer appreciation event to be held on **June 10, 2017**. More details to follow.



WESTLAND FOUNDATION

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