

The Westlander

The official newsletter of the Westland Foundation
Fall 2017



Westland Scholars with Westland President John Prystanski (last on the right)

(L-R) Duyen Chau - UManitoba, Neill Juan - Red River College, Jessie Reyes - Red River College, Eula Odulio - guest, Frances Hernandez - UWinnipeg, & Olivia Ferreira - UWinnipeg

PRESIDENT'S UPDATES

Greetings! These past few months have been a busy time for our volunteers, scholars, and staff.

This academic year, Westland anticipates awarding over 100 post-secondary scholarships to Inner Winnipeg students. The total value of scholarships to be awarded is over \$82,000, our largest disbursement to date.

Since its inception, Westland has awarded 605 students with scholarships in excess of \$377,000 and the endowment fund totals more than \$1.9 million.

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MEET OUR WESTLAND SCHOLARS

PRABHLEEN MAINGI

Engineering Student, UManitoba

Prabhleen Maingi moved to Canada in 2015. She is a Sisler High School graduate and was a peer tutor in Mathematics and a member of several student groups, including Free the Children, Young Minds, SHAC (Sisler High Against Cancer), Sisler's Welcoming Group, and RunForIt. To this day, Prabhleen is one of the student leaders of RunForIt – a program that links running with mental health instruction.

Prabhleen received the Westland Scholarship in 2017. She is grateful for the financial support and for the recognition she earned.

"As a Westland Scholar, I will work hard in school and will continue to be a productive member of my community. I aim to be a citizen who gives back to my family, my school, my community, and my new country," says Prabhleen.

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For Prabhleen, physical activity is crucial to one's overall well being. As a very active and adventurous young person, she joined the challenging and rewarding Cadet Program during her first year in Canada. The program instilled in her teamwork, discipline, and leadership and taught her many new Canadian discoveries. In just a span of two years, Prabhleen quickly rose to the rank of Level 5 Cadet and is now an instructor to Level 1 to 2 Cadets.

Prabhleen works part-time in a local dollar store while attending University. She volunteers with Winnipeg Harvest, helping to sort and stock goods and says it is very fulfilling to be there for those in need.

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Prabhleen (L) with her Cadet friends



FLORIANE MUSNI

Education Student, UWinnipeg

Floriane Musni studies Integrated Education at UWinnipeg. She looks forward to starting her teaching career in five years and pursuing her masters a few years later.

Floriane has a clear career path guided by her first love - numbers. She wants to share her love of numbers with others through the teaching profession. She aspires to help develop ways to creatively teach Mathematics in schools today.

Floriane is honoured to be a recipient of the Westland Scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic year. She thanks Westland Donors for supporting her and encouraging her to follow her heart. She says that Westland's support is a contribution she will hold dear for the rest of her life. She adds that the support she received today will have an impact on her future students' educational success.



ALYSSA MALABANAN

Hospitality & Tourism Student, Red River College

Alyssa Malabanan is a proud Westland Foundation Scholar. She is a Red River College first year Hospitality and Tourism Management student. She is grateful to Westland Donors for supporting students who lack the resources to reach for their dreams.

As a Westland Scholar, Alyssa would like to become a role model to high school students by demonstrating academic excellence and hard work. She says to her fellow students, "The Scholarship proves that no matter how hard life can get, we still have someone, somewhere, who supports us to navigate life's challenges."

Alyssa further advises high school students to keep dreaming and do their best to live up to their dreams.

RBC ROYAL BANK VOLUNTEER TEAM: PROUD WESTLAND VOLUNTEERS



RBC Volunteers (L-R): Danielle Zanewich, Remon Yang, Sandy Chen, & Alan Chan

“We are proud to represent RBC at important community events. It is an opportunity for us to demonstrate how much RBC cares about and is present in our community.”

*Remon Yang, Senior Account Manager
Royal Bank of Canada*

Remon is one of the five RBC employees who assisted in Westland’s 2017 Fundraising Breakfast.

He says, “The Scholarship helps Inner Winnipeg students recognize their abilities and celebrate their academic accomplishments. It inspires them to accomplish short-term educational goals that will lead them to achieving long-term life goals.”

RBC supports employee engagement in communities. In honour of Remon’s team’s volunteer time with Westland, a \$1,000 donation was made to Westland’s 2017 Fundraising Breakfast. The donation was made through RBC’s Day of Service Grants. Remon’s branch holds a day of service every year and has sent many volunteer teams to different community groups.

Michelle Aitkenhead, RBC Community Manager of Winnipeg North, made the Westland volunteer opportunity possible and was one of the 2017 Breakfast Volunteers. She is grateful for the opportunity Westland provided Remon and his team to help our communities prosper.

RBC believes that volunteering is vital to building better communities. Since 1999, RBC has donated more than \$24 million in celebration of its employees’ volunteer efforts.

Westland sincerely thanks RBC Royal Bank for its volunteer participation and substantial contributions towards the 2017 Fundraising Breakfast!

**For Westland Volunteer opportunities for corporate or business groups, contact:
Marilyn Camaclang
204 960 6771 or
westlandfoundationinc@gmail.com**

HEARTFELT THANKS TO WESTLAND VOLUNTEERS



Volunteer Appreciation Reception's guests

In recognition of Westland Volunteers' outstanding contributions, Westland held its Volunteer Appreciation Reception at its office on September 28. Over 35 guests joined Westland in gratitude for its volunteers' impressive work and in support of its most important goal - to provide the scholarship to every Inner Winnipeg student.

MLA Janice Morley-Lecomte of Seine River, brought greetings on behalf of The Honourable Brian Pallister, Premier of Manitoba and The Honourable Ian Wishart, Minister of Education and Training.

MLA Morley-Lecomte said, "The support of volunteers is instrumental for establishing post-secondary scholarships for many Inner Winnipeg students. Scholarships like these can be life-changing and open up pathways to new opportunities."



(L) A volunteer's child enjoying cookies donated by RRC's Culinary Arts (R) Westland Board with Westland Volunteer-Awardee Andrea Lugsdin



Other important guest speakers gave tribute to Westland Volunteers for their Westland support: Jessie Reyes, Digital Media Design student, spoke on behalf of Red River College Scholars, Olivia Ferreira, Science Student, on behalf of UWinnipeg Scholars, and John Vernaus of Vernaus Autobody, on behalf of all Westland Donors.

On behalf of all volunteer-awardees, Andrea Lugsdin thanked Westland for the special recognition and reaffirmed volunteer commitment to the work of the Foundation.

This appreciation event was emceed by UManitoba Westland Scholar Duyen Chau and Westland Board Member Adam Smoluk.



(L) Westland Volunteer-Awardee Stephen Barber (R) UManitoba Westland Scholar Duyen Chau, emcee

Westland thanks Red River College's Culinary Arts, Board Director Walter Silicz, Kathy Corbel, and Vendome and Windsor hotels for their contributions to this event's huge success.

Coming soon.....

12th FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

with UManitoba



WESTLAND FOUNDATION
Spring 2018

Prabhleen Maingi
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Looking back at her beautiful memories of India, Prabhleen recounts how she used to play the Harmonium and participate in traditional activities and a national soccer competition. She thanks Canada for the many opportunities to continue to be who she is and much more.

Prabhleen maintained high marks in high school, especially in Mathematics. She values all of her educational opportunities and is confident they will make her successful wherever she goes.

For her dedication to education and the community, academic excellence, and hard work, Westland congratulates Prabhleen Maingi - a true Westland Scholar!

We are thrilled to announce that our 12th Fundraising Breakfast to be held in spring 2018 will be for the benefit of the UManitoba Westland Scholars. We are working in collaboration with UManitoba to bring our fundraising breakfast to the next level. Watch out for more details!

President's Update from page 1

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped to make Westland's 11th Annual Breakfast an outstanding success! This year, we sold 71 tables and received over \$42,000 in various forms of sponsorships and donations. As a result of everyone's efforts, Westland donated \$35,000 to the Westland Foundation Education Fund at The University of Winnipeg Foundation.

Other Westland activities generated \$15,000 in gifts split evenly and donated to Red River College, The University of Manitoba, and The Winnipeg Foundation.

The Westland Foundation Board of Directors welcomes Adam Smoluk to our Board of Directors. Adam's focus on the Board will be to develop and chair our Communications Committee.

In September, we hosted our first Volunteer Appreciation Reception. Thank you to our Westland Scholars and Donors who participated.

Plans are already underway for the 2018 Fundraising Breakfast. As always, our goal is to increase the number and value of scholarships awarded, our donor base, and attract more volunteers.

On behalf of the Westland Board, Donors, Volunteers, and Scholars, THANK YOU!

John Prystanski



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