



The Westlander

The Official Newsletter of the Westland Foundation
Spring 2017



WESTLAND: BUILDING STRONG PARTNERSHIPS FOR EDUCATION

This spring brings the latest issue of The Westlander with exciting news, updates on donors, scholarship recipients and upcoming activities!

In January 2017, the Westland Foundation received a \$25,000 operating grant from The Winnipeg Foundation to support the salary of a full-time Communications and Development Coordinator. THANK YOU Winnipeg Foundation for helping Westland grow into a more robust organization and helping us reach more Inner Winnipeg students as they pursue their dreams of getting their post-secondary education! To support our Communications and Development Coordinator, Westland has now also rented a one-room administrative office located at 165 Garry Street.

As well, THANK YOU to TransCanada Corporation for continuing to partner with Westland. TransCanada Corporation is helping to elevate our scholarship program to the next level. With its trust and generosity, we are developing and hoping to launch our Job Finding Program during the 2017/2018 school year. If you are looking to fill your workplace with the right people or to provide on-the-job training to potential employees,

this program may be for you. We encourage all interested organizations to inquire with our office either by phone (204 943 0511) or email (info@westlandfoundation.ca). Help us help current and future Westland Scholars find employment opportunities.

In the meantime, don't forget to purchase your tickets/tables to the 11th Westland Foundation Breakfast Fundraiser on June 21st at the RBC Convention Centre. This year, it is our pleasure to host Sandy Riley, CEO and President of Richardson Financial Group Limited as our keynote speaker. Sandy will be joined by Westland Scholars and we are excited to release our 2017 Westland Foundation Scholars Video featuring two Westland Scholars. Please mark your calendar and don't miss out on this important event! Last year's breakfast raised \$23,826.00.

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Please join us on June 21st for our

11th Breakfast Fundraiser

with guest speaker Sandy Riley and emcee Carol Bellringer.

Details on page 5



Angelo (L) in one of his street dance performances (photo credits: fillionphotography.ca)

HIP HOP, WESTLAND AND THE ROAD TO EMPOWERMENT

In 2008, Angelo Lamsen became one of the first Inner Winnipeg students to receive a Westland Foundation Scholarship. Growing up in the North End as a new Canadian, he benefited greatly from the extra support he received from the Westland Scholarship during his first year at Red River College studying Business Administration, and is pleased to share his story.

He says, "I was surprised that a Foundation cared about my education as much as I did. The gift of education has nurtured my ambition to rise up from the circumstances I grew up in."

Angelo chose to study business to gain skills and ideas on how to convert his love of hip hop culture into a legitimate and sustainable career. Angelo inspires others by living up to what he considers the principles of hip hop: peace, love, unity, fun, and knowledge. According to Angelo, hip hop exists to combat any oppressive negative circumstances and is a therapeutic means to express one's self. Angelo believes that he is

living proof of the constructive nature of the true hip hop, and faithfully teaches these principles as a key to empowering those who are searching for a positive path.

He says, "I find in today's culture that most people look for the easiest and most comfortable route. We fail to realize that a certain type of struggle is necessary to achieve big things. Experience taught me that first, we develop a vision, then we struggle over obstacles to fulfilling this vision, and finally, through perseverance, we achieve this vision."

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"The gift of education has nurtured my ambition to rise up from the circumstances I grew up in."



Gabrielle (3rd from left) with group mates at the AIESEC Seminar, February 2017

WESTLAND SCHOLARSHIP INSPIRES A STUDENT TO PHILANTHROPY

Gabrielle Cochingco is pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Manitoba. She is thrilled and honoured to have received a 2016/2017 Westland Scholarship.

Before University, Gabrielle graduated from St. John's High School where she was President of St. John's Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) organization.

She says, "While studying in an Inner Winnipeg School, I became aware of the impact of charities in our schools. Through YIP, I was connected with the city's well established non-profit community."



Dmytro Shulyakov, a student of Biochemistry

Gabrielle's exposures to philanthropy shaped her dream to work within the city's charitable sector. She wishes to become an integral part of the city's self-development. She thanks the Westland Foundation and its donors for lightening her financial burdens and bringing her one step closer to this dream, including spare time to direct to worthwhile activities such as her involvement with UManitoba's AIESEC chapter, a global student-led organization focusing on leadership development.

Gabrielle is also gaining valuable experience as a marketing assistant at IBEX Payroll, a local payroll company that proudly supports Winnipeg charities.

Gabrielle highly appreciates the kind generosity of the Westland Foundation Donors.

"You inspire me to work harder and give back to our community. I hope that one day I could help other students achieve their goals just as you helped me."



WORDS OF THANKS FROM A UWINNIPEG STUDENT

"Thank you to the people behind the Westland Foundation Scholarship!

The scholarship assists me into entering the field of medicine. I want to be a doctor or dentist someday. It gives me pure joy just thinking of helping others through my future profession.

The scholarship gives me an opportunity to become a role model to both my family and my community. I would like to show my gratitude by finishing my studies and becoming a professional in my chosen field.

Thank you for assisting me into becoming who I want to be someday!"



(L-R) TransCanada's Barry Adamson (Energy East), Carla Morris, Councillor Mike Pagtakhan (Deputy Mayor, City of Winnipeg and Westland's Honourary Board Director), and John Prystanski

TRANSCANADA INVESTS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN COMMUNITIES



Carla Morris, Director of Gas Operations at the Central Region, imparts TransCanada's ongoing community initiatives.

TransCanada is pleased to invest in education and training in communities where they do business. Through their community efforts, they aim to promote capacity-building, develop the next generation of community leaders, and provide a skilled workforce for the industry.

TransCanada is delighted with their recent sponsorship of the Westland Foundation. The sponsorship enables them to support the education and training of Westland's diverse group of Inner Winnipeg Scholars.

Carla says, "TransCanada believes in the importance of post-secondary education. With the scholarship, Westland prepares the way for Inner Winnipeg students to participate in the ever evolving job market."

"..Westland prepares the way for Inner Winnipeg students to participate in the ever evolving job market."

Carla personally provides mentoring and networking opportunities to women in skilled trade and engineering programs. As a woman working in a highly technical environment, she is very much in support of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) as well as in skilled trades.

Carla is inspired to work everyday with a team of people committed to the company's values. She is proud of TransCanada's leadership in the responsible development and reliable operation of energy infrastructure in North America as well as its commitment to being a good neighbour and a trusted community partner everywhere they operate.

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St. John's High School's Choir with 2016 Breakfast Fundraiser's Guest Speaker His Worship Mayor Brian Bowman & Teacher/Conductor Christine Ronquillo (2nd row, last on the left)

NEWS & EVENTS

11th BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Join us for a meaningful breakfast in support of education for Inner Winnipeg Youth!

Get ready for an inspiring message from this year's keynote speaker Sandy Riley, CEO and President of Richardson Financial Group Limited.

When: 21 June 2017, Wednesday

Where: RBC Convention Centre, Winnipeg

Doors open: 6:45 a.m.

Continental-style breakfast: 7:00 a.m.

Program: 7:30 a.m.

Emcee: Carol Bellringer

Breakfast Sponsor: TransCanada Corporation

Costs:

Individual tickets - \$50.00

Table of 8 - \$400.00

For tickets or table sponsorship, call/email:

204 943 0511/info@westlandfoundation.ca

WESTLAND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINES ARE COMING SOON

For students registering at the following schools for the academic year 2017-2018, please note the application deadlines below:

Red River College:

September 01, 2017 (for programs starting in fall)

February 15, 2018 (for programs starting in winter)

University of Manitoba:

June 30, 2017

University of Winnipeg:

July 14, 2017

To download the application forms, visit:

<http://www.westlandfoundation.ca/scholarships/apply.html>



Conservative Club of Winnipeg President Robert Harper with John Prystanski

CONSERVATIVE CLUB OF WINNIPEG SUPPORTS EDUCATION OF INNER WINNIPEG YOUTH

Westland Foundation sincerely thanks the Conservative Club of Winnipeg for the opportunity to speak about the Westland Scholarship to its members and guests during its luncheon meeting at the Norwood Hotel on April 11, 2017.

The Foundation recognizes the inclusive venue they provided for Westland to highlight its advocacy on education. Westland is very grateful for the donation they made to the Foundation, it will go a long way in supporting the Westland Scholars in their post-secondary studies.

Established in 1879, the Conservative Club of Winnipeg organizes luncheons with speakers on a variety of topics on the second Tuesday of each month.

For more information about the club or its monthly luncheons, contact:

Robert Harper, *President*

204 384 1995

conservativeclubwinnipeg@gmail.com

***Westland: Building Strong Partnerships...
from page 1***

THANK YOU to our generous donors and outstanding volunteers!

The Westland Foundation Education Fund for the 2016/2017 academic year awarded 75 Westland Scholars scholarships totaling \$51,564. Our goal to fund every Inner Winnipeg student's post-secondary education remains our top priority. We need you to continue to partner with us and help us reach this goal!

On behalf of the current and future Westland Scholars, Donors, Volunteers, and Westland Board, thank you very much for your continued support!

JOHN PRYSTANSKI
President



***Hip Hop, Westland.....
from page 2***

Angelo is grateful to have discovered hip hop and the Westland Foundation during his difficult times as a youth. He would like to devote his energies to raising awareness about the Foundation as he believes Westland helps empower those who feel lost, scared, or confused about the future.

"My story proves that a little care, a little seed of encouragement can grow into a flourishing crop with yields far exceeding the sower's initial investment. I believe that the Westland Foundation is a hardworking sower and I'm proud to speak about their contribution to my continued journey of education. I'm encouraging students to rise up from your circumstances and hold on to anything that empowers you."

At present, Angelo is doing what he loves as a part-time street dance instructor at Rising Star Academy of Arts where he has been teaching for four years. He also works full-time at the Canadian Footwear's Shipping and Receiving Department.



***TransCanada Invests In....
from page 4***

Carla encourages other companies to continue to be a catalyst in improving our communities. She reminds us that we all live and work in these communities, contributing to the communities' success benefits us all.

Carla says, "Be present, be involved, and be an example. Don't underestimate the value of being involved in our communities at any levels!"

TransCanada Corporation has been a table sponsor at Westland's Annual Breakfast Fundraiser. In 2016, TransCanada intensified its involvement in Westland by sponsoring the Job Finding Program. This year, TransCanada is a proud breakfast sponsor of the fundraiser this June.

On behalf of the Westland Scholars, a huge thank you for TransCanada's unwavering support!

Interested in becoming a Westland Supporter? You can, by:

- Donating to the Westland Foundation Education Fund or for an operating fund via this link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/dn/15606>; or
- Sponsoring a table at Westland's Annual Breakfast Fundraiser; or
- Becoming a Westland Volunteer.

For more details, contact:

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