



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Guelph Community Foundation awards 20 students a total of \$29,900 in scholarships and bursaries

Guelph, Ontario – Friday, July 17, 2026

The Guelph Community Foundation and our fundholders are proud to announce our 2026 scholarship and bursary recipients. Twenty outstanding Guelph and Wellington County students will be awarded scholarships and bursaries set up by generous community fundholders to help these students achieve their academic goals. These scholarships and bursaries provide financial support for students pursuing post-secondary education. The student recipients have all shown determination, perseverance, compassion, respect for others and their community.

A new scholarship this year is the Smith Heritage Scholarship, which celebrates generations of the Smith family and extended family, as well as friends who have made a positive difference through achievements across their lifetime, in their respective fields. The goal of this newly opened scholarship is to help improve the world through investing in extraordinary students pursuing this ambitious mission.

We sincerely thank our fundholders and donors who fund these scholarships and bursaries, and who understand the impact that these funds will have in these young peoples' lives. The creation of these awards is often in memory of someone important to the fundholder's family, and as such is a thoughtful way to keep their generous spirit and memory alive. Our philanthropic fundholders believe it is important to provide financial support for students to pursue their post-secondary education and are happy to reward exceptional students in their pursuits. Thank you to The Guelph Community Foundation's volunteer Grants Committee, the Board of Directors, and the many local school administrators who helped to determine this year's incredible recipients.

Wellington Catholic District School Board: \$12,300 through twelve scholarships			
School Name	Scholarship Name	Award Winner	Amount Awarded
Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School	Smith Valeriotte Education Bursary	Ogofoluwa Akinade	\$5,000
Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School	Angelo and Rina Longo Scholarship	Riley Keenan	\$500
Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School	Eric Goegan Scholarship Award	Nico Wilson	\$500
Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School	John A. Hourigan Memorial Award	Veronika Antony	\$200
Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School	Mary Phelan Scholarship	Grace Morgan	\$1,000

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School	Angelo and Rina Longo Scholarship	Jeana Jinu	\$500
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School	Frank Taylor Bursary	Betelhem Tesfu	\$200
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School	Iolanda Maugeri Hall Business Education Bursary	Naveen Irfan	\$3,500
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School	John A. Hourigan Memorial Award	Paul Luis Sapad Alelojo	\$200
St. James Catholic High School	Angelo and Rina Longo Scholarship	Katie McMillan	\$500
St. James Catholic High School	John A. Hourigan Memorial Award	Audriana Stangherlin	\$200
St. John Bosco Catholic School	Smith Valeriotte Education Bursary	Tegan Read	\$5,000

Upper Grand District School Board: \$8,500 through four scholarships

School Name	Scholarship	Award Winner	Amount Awarded
Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute	Smith Valeriotte Education Bursary	Ryan Atchison	\$5,000
Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute	Mabel Anne Brouwer Scholarship Fund - Women in STEM	Shreya Patel	\$1,000
Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute	Smith Heritage Scholarship	Nhi Phan	\$2,000
Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute	Class of '71 Kathryn Winegard Memorial Scholarship	Melissa Maginess	\$500

Halton District School Board: \$350 through one scholarship

School Name	Scholarship	Award Winner	Amount Awarded
Acton High School	Jamie Vickery Memorial Fund	Renee Biggar	\$350

The University of Guelph: \$11,750 through four scholarships including:			
Department	Scholarship	Award Winner	Amount Awarded
Ontario Veterinary College	Bill Mactaggart Memorial Scholarship	Cassandra Stewart	\$5,000
University of Guelph Alumni Affairs	City of Guelph 175th Anniversary Scholarship	Ryan Zhao	\$2,000
College of Social and Applied Human Science	OMS Scholarship in Industrial Organizational Psychology	Rahul Patel	\$1,750

Congratulations to the 2026 award recipients!

Financial barriers for students are high and ever on the rise, especially as inflation has dramatically increased the price of living. These scholarships, which will be helpful to the students, often only scratch the surface of their upcoming financial need as they invest in their post-secondary education. Many of these students have been working full-time jobs while in school and will be supporting themselves financially. **If you are interested in learning more about how you or your family can create a scholarship or are looking at ways to support students in our community, contact the Foundation at info@guelphcf.ca**

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About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the people of Guelph and surrounding areas through endowments, stewardship, and granting programs. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of donors into permanent, interest earning endowments. The income from the endowments supports a range of charitable programs and activities. The Guelph Community Foundation is located at 55 Wyndham St. N., Suite 4A, in the Old Quebec Street Shoppes in downtown Guelph. To learn more please visit guelphcf.ca.