

Scholarships that help students succeed



THE IRVING K. BARBER
British Columbia Scholarship Society

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION

While most of us are thinking about summer and the fun that comes with it, for students, it can be a time of trying to get the money needed for post-secondary education.

Victoria's *Vital Signs* reports that more than 53 per cent of the people over 15 in Greater Victoria have completed some post-secondary education. That's good news given the studies that show the benefits of education on income, health, happiness and more.

For the student needing to fund tuition, shelter, food, transportation and day-to-day living, the costs can be overwhelming and sometimes beyond reach.

The Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society, working in partnership with the Victoria Foundation, is helping to take away some of the stress and financial strain for students in Victoria and throughout B.C.

Established in 2004, the Society was started as a result of a contribution to the University of B.C. by philanthropist and founder of Slocan Forest Products, Irving K. Barber. The Province matched Dr. Barber's \$15 million contribution with an endowment for student scholarships.

To date, the Government of B.C. has granted the Scholarship Society \$38 million for endowment funds. The earnings from these funds have provided almost 800 scholarships for students.

The Society's scholarship programs support aboriginal people pursuing post-secondary education, students transferring from college to complete a

degree, and international studies here and abroad.

Just recently, 84 aboriginal students received awards of \$1,000 to \$3,500 to further their post-secondary education in the province.

The Society's international scholarship programs support the international exchange of culture and knowledge. Currently under review, anyone interested in international studies is invited to take a survey at www.bcscholarship.ca. Just hit the red button on the web site.

Ike Barber transfer scholarships of \$5,000 each are available to students needing to transfer to another post-secondary institution in BC to complete their degree.

Thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Barber, up to 85 transfer scholarships will be awarded this year. The deadline for applications is Sept. 30. Visit www.bcscholarship.ca to apply.

Past transfer scholarship recipient Jamie Allen of Victoria shares how she's using her scholarship and the difference it's made. "In 2009, I began my fourth year of nursing school, and even with a part-time job, had acquired quite a large student debt."

"I chose nursing because I enjoy helping people. My goal is to work in a critical care area such as an emergency room or intensive care unit. I am also interested in being a street outreach nurse, catering to the homeless and marginalized population, and in working in mental health and addiction services at some point in my career."

The financial assistance provided by the transfer scholarship will help Jamie Allen achieve her plans. And, Allen's plans will help build a skilled workforce that benefits all of us.

Sera-Lys McArthur received the prestigious Premier's One World Scholarship in 2008 to attend the University of Essex for an MA in Acting.

Former College of New Caledonia students Tanner Shaw and Nicholas Fuches were awarded Ike Barber Transfer Scholarships in 2008 to complete Bachelor of Commerce degrees at UNBC in Prince George.



YOUR OPINION IS VITAL.

Victoria's *Vital Signs* is a community check-up conducted annually by the Victoria Foundation and community foundations across Canada.

It measures the vitality of our communities in 11 critical areas such as Health & Wellness, Environment and Standard of Living.

To compile the report, we need your input. As such, we ask you to take just a few moments to complete our easy, on-line survey.

Only with your input can we identify the issues in our community and work together to make our region better.

Please take the Vital Signs survey starting July 5th at: www.victoriafoundation.bc.ca



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