COETF David McKenna Scholarship

2019 David McKenna Scholarship has been Awarded to....

In 2018, the Canadian Optometric Education Trust Fund (COETF) set up two annual David McKenna Scholarships with the École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal and the University of Waterloo School of Optometry & Vision Science. The criteria for the scholarships were developed as a reflection of David McKenna's values and interests and include:

- Full-time undergraduate students enrolled in their SECOND Year in the École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal / FIRST Year in the School of Optometry & Vision Science in the Faculty of Science.
- Candidates must have achieved academic excellence with a minimum average of 80%.
- Candidates should exhibit leadership skills and community involvement.
- It is preferred that candidates be residents of Prince Edward Island. If in the instance there is no qualified student from PEI, preference for the award may be given to any student from the East Coast of Canada (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador).

Unfortunately no one from the University of Waterloo met the criteria this year but we are please to announce the recipient from the École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal.

Monica Hébert is a second-year student from Grande-Digue, a small community in Southeastern New Brunswick. "I've always had a love for sciences and mathematics which opened up a lot of career options. I spent my graduation year doing research and reflection on my future and optometry was my first choice from a list of other health professions" says Monica. Monica gave back to her community through volunteering at the Dr. Georges-L.Dumont Hospital during her last year in pre-med. "Hard work does pay off and I am proud that I'm able to pursue my dreams. I was, after a few
weeks of anxiety, accepted into optometry with a grade point average of 4.27 out of 4.30”.

Monica developed her experience by working at two clinics in New Brunswick which allowed her to gain field experience working directly with patients. She also volunteers at the VOSH Santa Cruz who prepare glasses for humanitarian trips for people in need of eye correction and provides free eye exams and glasses for all patients. "I love being part of a small community and with the shortage of health professionals in New Brunswick, it is my intention to practice in my native province. In my opinion, good vision and eye health should be a right and not a privilege. To know that I will help many people now considered blind to return to work, go to school and do daily activities simply by giving them proper correction makes me humble and proud to be studying in this profession”.

COETF is proud to have the opportunity to support the education of this deserving student. If you wish to support the David McKenna Fund, please here to donate.

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COETF awarded $50,000 towards research projects in 2019!

**2019 COETF Annual Awards Program**

COETF awarded $50,000 towards research projects in 2019 and our 2020 Awards Program is under way! 22 submissions have been received and will be reviewed for funding in early April. Stay tuned for the results!

The list of individuals and projects that received COETF funding in 2019 is available here.

To support the 2020 COETF Awards Program, please click here.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Total Applications Received 2019</th>
<th>Total Funding Requested 2019</th>
<th>Total Applications Approved 2019</th>
<th>Total Funding provided</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Waterloo School of Optometry Applications</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>$132,493.50</td>
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<td>$23,875.00</td>
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<td>Total Montréal École d'Optométrie Applications</td>
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<td>$2,069,823.00</td>
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