

2025 BURSARY & SCHOLARSHIP Funding Opportunities



Rainy River First Nations Trust



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*The Rainy River First Nations Trust
operates under the direction of the Trust Agreement.
Trustees are guided in their work by core values,
a vision statement and a mission statement.*

core values

Core values of the Trust are embedded in the sacred teachings of love, humility, honesty, bravery, wisdom, truth and respect.

vision

Empowering Rainy River First Nations membership to use our strengths, gifts and abilities with purpose and direction to enhance our future. The Trust supports the development and delivery of projects that preserve our rich cultural identity as Anishinaabeg of Manidoo Baawitigong. The Trust inspires achievement to the fullest potential and aspires to improve the quality of life for this generation and those yet to come.

mission

The Trust is established for the benefit of the Rainy River First Nations membership. The Trust supports a strong and vibrant community by providing financial assistance for projects that enhance services, increase opportunities and empowers the lives of membership. The Trust will act with cultural integrity, fiscal responsibility and



background & overview

Section 8.2b(ii) of the Trust Agreement details that Trust funds for Community Purposes can be used to enhance and promote educational opportunities, including the provision of *scholarships and bursary funds* and *recognizing the achievement of Members* in educational endeavors.

Consistent with Section 8.2b (ii), the Trust Vision and Mission Statements and the core values that guide Trustees, the Trust has developed two policies that support the establishment of both scholarships and bursaries. The policies were approved in September 2019 and work began in 2020 to determine the process and details for delivery.

Included in the Trust's educational support for Members are distinct funding opportunities that have been developed to honour and remember the dedicated service of two longstanding Financial Trustees, Chi-Ankawat—Delbert Horton and Neil Fry.

In addition, Trustees have developed Trust bursaries and scholarships that can be updated annually. For 2025, Trustees have updated the Scholarship program areas to include Medical, Education, Indigenous Language, Community Development, the Arts and Technical/Professional related programs.



TRUSTEE RECOGNITION BURSARY/SCHOLARSHIP

RATIONALE

This policy establishes the Chi-Anikwat Bursary and the Neil Fry Scholarship in Finance in recognition of the long service and commitment to the Trust by two Trustees who have passed recently.

This initiative is undertaken in accordance with section 8.2(b) (ii) of the Trust Agreement which states in part *"...providing scholarships and bursary funds for Members..."*.

POLICY STATEMENT

In recognition of their involvement with the Trust since its' inception, the Community Fund Trustees have taken the decision to create a bursary and a scholarship in the names of Delbert Horton and Neil Fry. The amount of each bursary/scholarship will be set by Trustees on an annual basis.

PROCEDURE

The Trust will establish a committee consisting of at least one member of each family and one member from each of the Financial and Community Fund Trustees, whose function it will be to establish eligibility criteria, review and approve applications. The eligibility criteria will be established prior to receiving any applications, publicly available and at a minimum published on the Trust website.

REFERENCES

Trust Agreement Section 8.2(b) (ii)

TRUST BURSARY/SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

RATIONALE

This policy establishes the ability of the Trust to provide Members with bursaries and scholarship for post-secondary education, apprenticeships and skilled trade programs.

This initiative is undertaken in accordance with section 8.2 (b) (ii) of the Trust Agreement which states in part “...*providing scholarships and bursary funds for Members...*”.

POLICY STATEMENT

In recognition of the need to support Members in their pursuit of a higher education and acknowledge the hard work of Rainy River First Nations post-secondary students, the Trust will develop and implement bursaries and scholarships.

Eligibility is restricted to Trust Members as defined in Section 1.17 of the Trust Agreement.

PROCEDURE

The Trust will establish a committee consisting of one member from each of the Financial and Community Fund Trustees along with the Trust Administrator, whose function it will be to establish eligibility criteria, review and approve applications. The eligibility criteria will be established prior to receiving any applications, publicly available and at a minimum published on the Trust website.

REFERENCES

Trust Agreement Section 8.2(b) (ii)

Trust Agreement Section 1.17





“

- (ii) enhance and promote educational opportunities, including but not limited to providing funding for the Beneficiary to enable it to build, establish and operate schools or training facilities for Members, in providing scholarships and bursary funds for Members and recognizing achievements by Members in educational endeavours;

8.2 (b) ~ Trust Agreement

chi-anikwat Bursary

This bursary is developed in remembrance of Chi-Anikwat, Delbert Horton, who served as a Financial Trustees since the inception of the Trust in 2005.



FINANCIAL TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT

December 19, 2005

to

December 23, 2018

Chi-Anikwat's focus during his tenure as a Trustee was ensuring the Trust enhanced and supported activities and programs that were founded in Aboriginal and Treaty rights and in ensuring provincial and/or federal funders were held to their obligations under Aboriginal and Treaty rights. He was a firm believer in the importance of governments being made aware of their funding shortfalls and the impacts these had on the community. He was a strong advocate for adequate funding, especially in the area of Education. Chi-Anikwat was vocal about the importance of the Trust in supporting and empowering both the community and individual Members to succeed. He placed great value on ensuring the Trust considered future generations in all planning.

Chi-Anikwat held an honorary Ph.D. from the World Indigenous Nations University and a Masters of Indigenous Knowledge and Philosophy from Seven Generations Education Institute. His heart was deeply rooted in his strong cultural teachings and ceremonies and working with his gifts to strengthen his community and Indigenous people around the globe. He believed in recognizing one's gifts and abilities and using these to build not only your own personal bundle but that of the community, having a strong cultural identity and living a good life.

**The Chi-Anikwat Bursary will support Members in a
Masters or Ph.D. level program
in Indigenous Studies and/or Indigenous Leadership.**

The bursary, in the amount of \$2,500, will be awarded to a student who has completed at least one year of programming and is continuing their studies in the Fall, or who has graduated in the summer of 2025.

HOW TO APPLY:

The following items must be included in your application to the Trust:

- 2025 Trust Bursary/ Scholarship Application Form.
- Letter of confirmation of admission for your program or graduation documentation.
- Essay (500 words) detailing your educational plans, the benefits that would result from the bursary and why you would be an excellent candidate.
- Minimum of one signed letter of recommendation.



**2025 DEADLINE:
December 1, 2025**

neil fry

Scholarship

This scholarship is developed in remembrance of Neil Fry, who provided many years of dedicated service to both the Rainy River First Nations community as an auditor and to the Trust as a Financial Trustee.



During his service within Rainy River First Nations, Neil developed a close connection to the community and gained a valuable understanding of both the challenges and opportunities that existed.

Neil understood the financial limitations that come with federal and provincial funding programs for First Nations and the ways in which this limited funding could be enhanced and supplemented by the Trust. He was diligent in utilizing his skill and expertise in financial matters and ensured processes and procedures were developed within the Trust that were both fiscally responsible and transparent.

Neil's academic and professional background as a Certified Professional Accountant is the foundation upon which this scholarship is based. Neil chose to volunteer his time beyond his accountant and Trustee duties, to support Rainy River First Nations and its Members. He shared encouragement and recommendation for pursuing a post-secondary education as he believed in the benefits and valuable role education played in building a strong community that could thrive and achieve.

FINANCIAL TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT

September 12, 2005
to
December 15, 2018

The Neil Fry Scholarship will support Members in a Finance, Accounting and/or Business/Commerce post-secondary program.

Special attention will be given to Members who volunteer their time and energy to various Boards and community organizations, as this was one of Neil's passions.

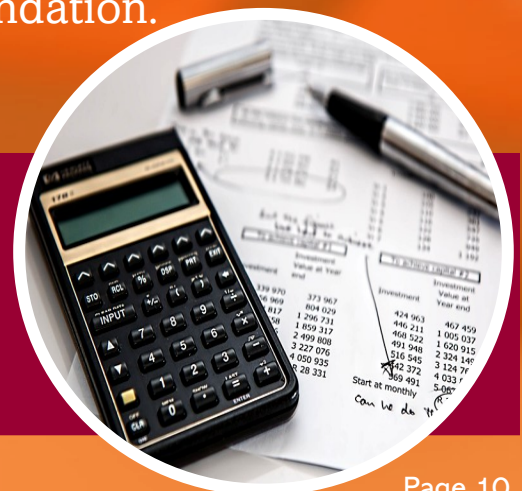
The scholarship, in the amount of \$2,500, will be awarded to a student who has completed at least one year of programming and is continuing their studies in the Fall, or who has graduated in the summer of 2025.

HOW TO APPLY:

The following items must be included in your application to the Trust:

- 2025 Trust Bursary/ Scholarship Application Form.
- Letter of confirmation of admission for your program or graduation documentation.
- Essay (500 words) detailing your educational plans, the benefits that would result from the scholarship and why you would be an excellent candidate.
- Details on volunteer work and/or Boards/Committee participation.
- Minimum of one signed letter of recommendation.

**2025 DEADLINE:
December 1, 2025**



2025 Trust Bursary & Scholarships



Each year Trustees will identify fields of study in which Trust scholarships and bursaries will be provided.

2025 Scholarship Program Areas (Value \$2,500):

- **Medical**
(example: Doctor, Nursing, Personal Support Worker, Pharmacy Technician, etc.)
- **Education**
(example: Early Childhood Education, Teaching, Special Education, Adult Education, Educational psychology, etc.)
- **Indigenous Language**
(example: Immersion programs, second language programs, language instructor, etc.)
- **Community Development**
(example: Engineering, Construction, Technology, Policing, Community Planning, Infrastructure, etc.)
- **Arts**
(example: General Arts, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Music, Theatre, etc.)
- **Technical / Professional**
(example: Technology, Computer Programming, Hair Stylist, Aviation, Tourism, Culinary Arts/Chef, etc.)

2025 Bursary Program Area (Value \$1,500):

- **Apprenticeship/ Skilled Trade Program**
(example: electrical, plumbing, carpentry, welding, etc.)

HOW TO APPLY:

The following items must be included in your application to the Trust:

- 2025 Trust Bursary/ Scholarship Application Form.
- Letter of confirmation of admission for your program or graduation documentation.
- Essay (500 words) detailing your educational plans, the benefits that would result from the bursary and why you would be an excellent candidate.
- Minimum of one signed letter of recommendation.



2025 DEADLINE:
December 1, 2025



2025 APPLICATION FORM: BURSARY & SCHOLARSHIP

PLEASE TYPE INTO FORM OR PRINT CLEARLY

Application being made for:

- ☐ Chi-Anakwat (Delbert Horton) Bursary ☐ Neil Fry Scholarship
☐ 2025 TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS: ___ Medical ___ Education ___ Indigenous Language
 ___ Community Development ___ Arts ___ Technical/Professional
☐ 2025 TRUST BURSARY: ___ Apprenticeship ___ Skilled Trade

Name:

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Cellular Number: (_____) _____

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

☐ Status Number _____ (Copy required)

☐ Primary Residence On Reserve ☐ Primary Residence Off Reserve (Used for statistical information)

I confirm that my application includes the necessary items for a Trust Bursary/Scholarship Application. I understand that any omitted items will result in my application being deemed incomplete and not eligible for review.

Initial to confirm attachment of each item.

- ☐ 1. Signed Application Form _____ ☐ 2. Admission Letter/Graduation Doc. _____
☐ 3. Personal Essay _____ ☐ 4. Letter(s) of Recommendation _____
 (I certify that I am the author of the essay provided)

I verify that I have included the necessary documentation to be considered for a Bursary/Scholarship offered by the Rainy River First Nations Trust.

Print Name

Signature

Date

**Scholarship/Bursary Applications
are accepted by email, fax, hand delivery,
or by mail (*must arrive by the deadline*):**

EMAIL THE TRUST OFFICE:
info@RRFNTrust.ca

FAX:
(807) 482-2168

HAND DELIVER TO:
26C School Road,
Rainy River First Nations

MAIL:
P.O. Box 484
Emo, Ontario P0W 1E0



**www.rainyriverfirstnationstrust.ca
www.rrfntrust.ca**