



2025 SCHOLARSHIPS – All Schools

Guidelines for Students:

All scholarship applications are due on April 4, 2025, by 5:00pm. Scholarships will be announced in June 2025 at the awards ceremonies at local schools. Please note that the dates of the award ceremonies vary from school to school.

Scholarship winners are required to submit two important documents to receive payment:

- 1) The signed Declaration form, which will be in the Congratulations Letter from their school, and
- 2) Proof of Enrolment in the post-secondary institution they will be attending. This can be a copy of their course load for the year, an official letter stating their enrolment, and/or any other official proof of enrolment.

These two documents must be emailed here: ndoiron@whistlerfoundation.com by September 1, 2025. The Foundation will forward this information to the School Board, who will then issue a cheque that will be sent to the physical mailing address provided in the Declaration. These cheques take approximately 8 weeks (about 2 months) to process.

The Whistler Community Foundation also kindly requests that all scholarship winners submit a thank you note including a quick summary of their plans for the next year, which we will forward to the various scholarship donors who have made these scholarships possible.

If a scholarship winner decides to defer attending a post-secondary institution for up to one year, we ask that they notify us by email by September 1, 2025. The funds will still be available to them once we receive the two required documents with the current information (signed Declaration and Proof of Enrolment).

Questions? Please email Natalie at ndoiron@whistlerfoundation.com



1. CHILI THOM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Chili Thom was a community volunteer and a strong advocate for the arts and culture community. He made a connection between sport, nature, and fine art and captured the spirit of the Sea to Sky with his dreamy imagery and wild at heart perspective. After a courageous and spirited fight, Chili lost his battle with cancer on November 30, 2016.

The Chili Thom Memorial Scholarship Fund was created after a month-long Whistler community celebration of the artist, held in June of 2017. Arts Whistler Presents: The Chili Thom Experience lit up 5 of Whistler's cultural buildings with Chili's art and soul: The Audain Art Museum, Maury Young Arts Centre, Whistler Museum, The Whistler Public Library and the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre.

The Chili Thom Memorial Scholarship supports graduating students in the Sea to Sky Community who are pursuing the brave, expressive and divine calling of being a professional artist. Funds may be used toward post-secondary formal education in the arts, to purchase arts supplies, attend workshops, or for other activities that support the applicant's development in the arts.

Amount: One award of \$500 for each school.

Who can apply: Howe Sound Secondary School, Pemberton Secondary School, Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School, Xet'olacw Community School

Criteria:

- Applicants must identify as an artist, with the eventual goal to be a professional artist in one or more of the following fields: fine art (photography, painting, illustration, sculpture etc.), theatre (acting, dancing, directing etc.), film-making (directing, writing, editing etc.), writing (creative writing, novels, short stories, journalism, etc.), digital media / creative design/ fashion design, music (singing, composing, playing an instrument, etc.)



- Applicants must also be wishing to develop in the arts in such a way as to benefit their community and enhance appreciation for the natural environment
- Applicants must upload a sample of their artwork
- Applicants must upload a letter from a mentor or someone who is a fan of their art; this could be a teacher, parent, friend, or another artist
- Applicants are not required to be enrolling in post-secondary education

Selection process: Selected by a group of people who were involved in creating the scholarship.

How to Apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/t14CiU6c46>



2. DON MACLAURIN MEMORIAL ROTARY CLUB OF WHISTLER & CHEAKAMUS COMMUNITY FOREST SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Don MacLaurin was a forester and teacher who first came to Whistler with his family in the 1960's. He was instrumental in identifying and protecting sensitive ecosystems in the valley, particularly Lost Lake Park and the Ancient Cedars. He also played a key role in developing the Whistler Interpretive Forest and designated many of the trails there and elsewhere in the valley including the Musical Bumps trail. He designed and taught courses in forestry, parks and recreation management at BCIT for 24 years and internationally in the South Pacific, New Zealand, and Australia. He firmly believed that forests should be managed to serve multiple community values, and his influence helped lead to the creation of the Cheakamus Community Forest, a partnership between RMOW, Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation. Don and his artistic wife, Isobel, were dedicated Rotary members and contributed much to the community in a multitude of ways.

Amount: One or more awards of \$1000.

Who Can Apply: Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School and any students graduating from a secondary school who are a member of the Squamish Nation or Lil'wat Nation

Criteria:

- Be pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited post-secondary institution
- Demonstrate exemplary citizenship and all-round participation at school and in the community
- Demonstrate experience and/or interest with forestry, natural resources management or First Nations' archaeological issues or projects
- Demonstrate outstanding Leadership Skills
- Demonstrate Community Service
- Demonstrate Academic Excellence
- Demonstrate Financial Need



Selection process: Winners will be selected jointly by the MacLaurin Family, the Rotary Club of Whistler Scholarship Committee and Cheakamus Community Forest representative.

How to Apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/v8h5HvitaE>



3. DOUG AND MARY FORSETH SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Created by long term Whistler residents Doug and Mary Forseth, this scholarship supports graduating students in the Sea to Sky region who are pursuing post-secondary education in fields related to business, tourism, and/or hospitality.

Amount: One or more awards of \$750.

Who can apply: Howe Sound Secondary School, Pemberton Secondary School, Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School, and Xet'olacw Community School.

Criteria:

- Pursuing post-secondary education in a field related to business, tourism, and/or hospitality
- Demonstrate a balanced background in athletics, community service and scholastic achievement

Selection process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/MALp3ALqcC>



4. GRAD LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

Description: The Grad Legacy Scholarship was established in 2015 by the 2014 Graduation Organizing Committee at Whistler Secondary School. The committee and graduating students worked hard to raise money for their graduation ceremonies. By the end of the school year, they raised approximately \$30,000. After expenses, the students have \$12,000 remaining. One student, Lauren Doak, came up with the idea of creating a scholarship for someone in the school district in financial need. The group decided to use \$9,500 to set up the scholarship fund. In 2019, the graduating class decided to add \$6789 from their fundraising efforts and plan to challenge future classes to keep the endowment growing. The scholarships will be awarded based on financial need and the desire to go to school, rather than grades.

Amount: One award of \$550.

Who can apply: Howe Sound Secondary School, Pemberton Secondary School, Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School, Xet'olacw Community School

Criteria:

- Be pursuing post-secondary education or formal post-secondary training
- Self-identified financial need

Selection Process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/wsH8Wc0PzQ>



5. KELTY AND RILEY DENNEHY SCHOLARSHIP

Description: The Kelty & Riley Dennehy Scholarship Fund was created by Ginny & Kerry Dennehy and the Kelty Patrick Dennehy Foundation in honour of their two children Kelty and Riley. On March 2, 2001, they lost their 17-year-old son Kelty after a short battle with depression. That same year, the Dennehy's created the [Kelty Patrick Dennehy Foundation](#) to help those that suffer from depression as well as their friends and family. Tragedy hit the Dennehy family again in 2009 when Riley died of a heart attack from strong medication prescribed to manage the pain for a separated shoulder. The scholarships generated by the Kelty & Riley Dennehy Scholarship Fund are intended to support students graduating from secondary schools in Whistler. The scholarships will be awarded to students who stand out in unique ways, beyond academics.

Amount: One or more awards of \$1500.

Who can apply: Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School

Criteria:

- Be pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited post-secondary institution
- Demonstrate community involvement and engagement
- Demonstrate leadership qualities and/or well-rounded development

Selection Process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/p9LqdB9tng>



6. SARAH MCSEVENEY SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Sarah McSeveney was a beloved teacher at the Whistler Children's Centre. With her warm and positive demeanor, Sarah touched the lives of many families. Sarah was a lifelong learner, a fervent advocate for high quality early childhood education, and had a thirst for knowledge. Sarah died suddenly and tragically in a car crash in October 2005. Her family, friends and coworkers created a scholarship fund at the Whistler Community Foundation to honour her memory.

Amount: One award of \$600.

Who can apply: Howe Sound Secondary School, Pemberton Secondary School, Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School, Xet'olacw Community School

Criteria:

- Pursuing post-secondary education in Early Childhood Education (this is mandatory)
- Strong academic performance
- Demonstrated community involvement and volunteer work
- Planning to return to the Sea to Sky Corridor following training

Selection Process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/4T1st44v2J>



7. WALTER ZEBROWSKI MEMORIAL ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Wladyslaw (Walter) Zebrowski was a man with a vision. He moved to Whistler in the late sixties. Whistler barely existed. There was no highway, no electricity, no running water. There was only a beautiful mountain waiting to be discovered. He loved his community and wanted to make a difference. Walter Zebrowski is one of the founding fathers of Whistler. He exemplified outstanding citizenship, resourcefulness and determination. He was hard working and expressed his opinions openly often writing letters to the editor.

Walter founded several Whistler institutions including the Garibaldi Whistler Development Company, Whistler Water Works Company, and the Whistler Television Society as he felt Whistler needed television reception. He was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Whistler and co-founder of the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Whistler Volunteer Fire Department. He was always an active member of the community. In 1995 he published his autobiography, called In Search of Freedom.

The Walter Zebrowski Memorial Rotary Scholarship Fund will be awarded to two graduates who demonstrate Walter's values of community, leadership, responsibility, initiative, entrepreneurship and perseverance. It is our hope that through this scholarship the history of Wladyslaw (Walter) Zebrowski and Whistler Mountain will live on.

Amount: Two awards of \$1250.

Who can apply: Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School

Criteria:

- Be a resident of the Resort Municipality of Whistler
- Be pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited post-secondary institution
- Demonstrate exemplary citizenship and all-round participation at WSS and in the community
- Demonstrate Outstanding Leadership Skills
- Demonstrate Community Service
- Demonstrate Academic Excellence



- Demonstrate Entrepreneurial Skills

Selection process: Selected jointly by the Rotary Club of Whistler and the Zebrowski Family or their representative with the final recommendations being confirmed by the Zebrowski Family.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/9rddy3aS5y>



8. WENDY THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP

Description: Wendy Thompson was a strong, outdoor-oriented young woman who served as a ski patroller in Whistler, a paramedic with the BC Ambulance Service in Whistler and Vancouver, and as a volunteer with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. She was an active mountain biker and hiker. Ms. Thompson died when a British Columbia Ambulance Service flight crashed into the ocean at the north end of the Queen Charlotte Islands. At the time of her death, she was on the ambulance service's Infant Transport Team, since she loved children and young people. This scholarship fund was established in her memory by her parents Michael and Shirley Thompson.

Amount: One or more awards of \$1000.

Who can apply: Howe Sound Secondary School, Pemberton Secondary School, Whistler Secondary School, Whistler Waldorf School, Xet'olacw Community School

Criteria:

- Be currently participating in the Outdoor Recreation Leadership Program
- Demonstrate exemplary achievement and qualities
- Preference for students who wish to pursue a post-secondary education in the field of outdoor leadership

Selection process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation, in collaboration with the Outdoor Recreation Leadership Program leader at Whistler Secondary School.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/4sbkFstGYG>



9. WHISTLER SCHOLARSHIP

Description: The Whistler Scholarship Fund was created in 1989 by volunteers in the community. In the early 1980's, community members got together to raise money for scholarships for graduating students.

Amount: One or more awards of \$500.

Who can apply: Whistler Secondary School

Criteria:

- Exhibit community leadership, consideration for others and outstanding personal qualities
- Strong academic performance

Selection Process: Selected by the Whistler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee.

How to apply: Be prepared to upload a copy of your transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation. All files must be in PDF and include your full name in the file name. Please fill out the online application at the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/S0pgissm13>