



2021 Investing in our Diversity Scholarships

FOUNDING PARTNERS AND DONORS



Toronto
Community
Housing



About the Scholarship

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarships are awarded each year to Toronto youth based on academic excellence, financial eligibility and community leadership. The scholarships promote youth empowerment, diversity and community safety in Toronto.

Students receive up to \$4,000 to pursue postsecondary studies or professional training.

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program was founded in 2001 by the late Bill McMurtry, Founding Partner, Blaney McMurtry LLP, and Kevin Lee, former Executive Director of Scadding Court Community Centre. Toronto Community Housing became a partner in 2006.



At-a-glance

 **49**
Scholarship
Recipients in
2021

Recipients will attend

 **15** 
different colleges or
universities across
Ontario, Canada,
the United States
and abroad.



AREAS OF STUDY

Accounting and Finance
American Sign Language
Business Technology
Management
Chemistry
Child and Youth Care
Commerce
Computer Science
Early Childhood Education
Electrical Engineering
Electrical Techniques
Engineering
Evolutionary Anthropology
French Studies & Education
Global Health - Nursing Degree
Health Sciences
Human Biology
Immunology & Health & Disease
Information Technology
International Relations and
Computer Science
Law
Life Science
Neuroscience
Political Science
Pre-Health Science
Psychology
Public Policy & Administration
Social Service Work
Social Work in Gerontology
Social Worker
Women and Gender Studies
Youth Development



Research leading discoveries in anthropology

Come up with sustainable ideas that help the environment

Create software solutions that impact the world for the better

Conduct research as a professor

Help people access essential services and meet their needs as they age

Help kids and adults with autism or speech delay

Be an electrician and entrepreneur

Help people who are ill

Become a Software Developer

Become an Early Childhood Educator in the Toronto District School Board

Become a social worker within secondary schools to work closely with youth and support their development

I aspire to...

Create solutions to address world problems

Become an instrumental lead in advocating for student voices and growth

Support my neighbours and ensure fairness in the legal system

Work with Doctors Without Borders

Help people access essential services and meet their needs as they age

Facilitate inclusive and progressive environments where they're needed most

Be a therapist for children and adolescents

Have the opportunity to create a scholarship like IIODS

Start my own business

Become a Child and Youth Care worker in a school or community-based youth center

Defend the rights and freedom of the people of the Jane and Finch community

Make a change in my community and leave an impact on society

Become a high school French immersion teacher

Aid and support underprivileged groups

Drive innovation and build a better world for future generations

Pursue a career in neuroscience

Combine my interests in community-based research and the social determinants of health with a career in medicine

Provide legal assistance for marginalized communities

Greetings from TCHC

Toronto
Community
Housing



On behalf of all of us at Toronto Community Housing, I wish to congratulate each of the recipients of the 2021 Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship.

Everyone involved in this program is proud to support you in pursuing your educational and career goals. We know that the hardest work is yours: taking time from your studies and part-time jobs to volunteer and mentor youth in your communities, start support programs and encourage others through your leadership to stand up against racism and promote equity, diversity and fairness.

I want to thank our donors for their generosity, support and commitment to the students and the scholarship program. Since 2003, our donors, including founding partners Blaney McMurtry LLP and Scadding Court Community Centre, have helped to ensure that as many students as possible can be recognized for their contributions to their communities in the form of a scholarship.

I also want to thank the families, friends and mentors of the students for all the things you do to support and encourage them. You are a very important part of their success.

Again, my sincere congratulations and thanks to our 2021 scholarship recipients. All of us at Toronto Community Housing wish you the very best.

Jag Sharma
President and Chief Executive Officer
Toronto Community Housing Corporation



Greetings from SCCC

In 2021, when so much has occurred over the past year, writing to congratulate the recipients of the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship feels special, and it brings hope.

I am elevated when I learn about the goals and achievements of our young community members, and I am honoured to acknowledge and celebrate their success in the face of adversity.

It's hard to believe it's been 20 years since the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship was founded by Scadding Court's Kevin Lee and Blaney McMurtry's Bill McMurtry. We've been fortunate to have Toronto Community Housing as partners for many years, and the support of many wonderful organizations and individuals across Toronto.

Though it's been 20 years, the need to support youth who show commitment and leadership in community building, neighbourhood safety projects, anti-racism, and advocacy for diversity continues. These young people are our future, and investing in them is investing in ourselves.

I feel privileged to have witnessed from the beginning the direct impacts these youth have had on their communities, and to see how alumni have continued to grow and give back. Scadding Court thanks and congratulates all of the very deserving youth on their achievements. It's a joy to recognize your hard work, and to celebrate you.

Sincerely,

Herman Ellis Jr
Executive Director
Scadding Court Community Centre



Greetings from Blaney McMurtry LLP



Blaney McMurtry is very proud to be one of the original co-founders of the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship program (IIDS), which was conceived by our late partner, William (Bill) McMurtry, and Kevin Lee, formerly the Executive Director of Scadding Court Community Centre.

Our partner, Ian Epstein, worked with Bill McMurtry and recalls Bill as a champion of diversity long before it became mainstream. Ian says “Bill’s commitment to the disadvantaged and under-served, his passion for Toronto and his desire to be a voice for those so often overlooked, motivated him to create a program that encouraged young people to focus on anti-racism and diversity. Our firm shares these values and we are very honoured to carry them forward and continue what Bill started.” He adds “Bill’s spirit lives on through this program and we are very proud of that.”

Blaney’s partner, Jack Siegel, has been part of Scadding Court’s scholarship award committee from the beginning. He says “Over the years, IIDS grew from a handful of awards to Scadding area students, to a city-wide program that has helped hundreds of students to achieve their dreams. We are delighted to help ensure that this continues to make a real difference for many years to come.”

Ian Epstein and Jack Siegel
Partners Blaney McMurtry LLP



Everett, Frederica and Robert Fleming Diversity Scholarships

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“Congratulations to our scholarship winners! I would like to recognize the resilience and dedication you have demonstrated as you faced unprecedented pandemic challenges throughout your final year of high school, in addition to your academic excellence and commitment to your communities. Many of you are embarking on careers focused on caring for and improving the lives of others, something we need now more than ever. I am thrilled to support our winners as they take their next important steps.”

Anne Fleming

Everett Fleming Diversity Scholarship

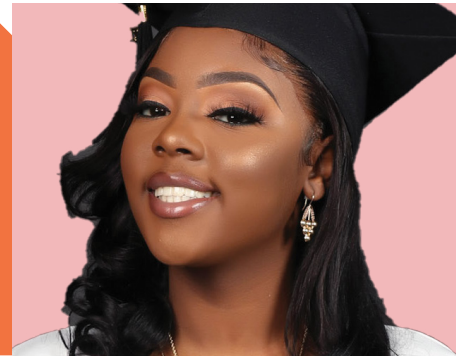
Frederica Fleming Diversity Scholarship

Robert Fleming Diversity Scholarship



Fatuma Abdi
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Seeing her parents' hard work and perseverance has inspired Fatuma to always try her best to achieve her goals. A first-year student studying Child and Youth Care, she is devoted to making a difference in her community and helping others with the support they need. Fatuma's goal after university is to become a Child and Youth Care worker in a school or community-based youth center.



Deangela Provo
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Embarking on a Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care, Deangela has spent the last year volunteering at the Toronto Fire Native Cultural Centre while studying, working, and caring for her family. In addition, she has launched her own clothing line, Premium Chick, which uses up-cycled Indigenous material and anti-fast fashion to create ethical, stylish apparel.



Inas Zein
HUMBER COLLEGE

Inas and her family discovered a true home in the Regent Park community. As an undergraduate in the Child and Youth Care program at Humber College, she strives to promote anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory approaches in all her future opportunities. She stays motivated by surrounding herself with positive, impactful people on her journey to break ongoing generational cycles of community injustice.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

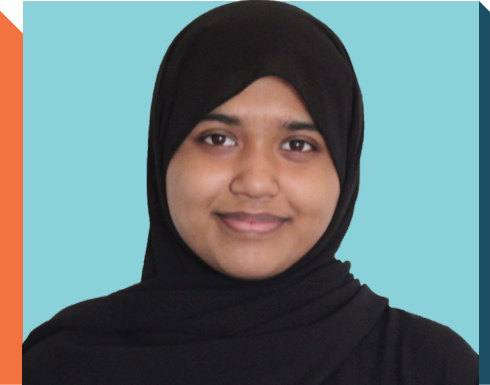
“ Congratulations to the IIODS students of 2021 on the first step towards achieving your goals. Dream big, work hard and do the right thing! Best wishes for your future achievements. ”

Ed and Fran Clark
Clark TCHC Diversity Scholarships



Abdurahman (Abdi) Ahmed
SENECA COLLEGE

Abdi will be studying Social Work in Gerontology. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he reached out to help seniors by volunteering with TCHC staff to deliver meals to many families and elderly people. The experience led him to choose a career where he can help people access essential services and meet their needs as they age. Abdi also enjoys basketball and writing poetry, and says his family, including three older siblings, have made him feel supported and empowered.



Alif Ashraf
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Alif is majoring in Evolutionary Anthropology to become a researcher so that she can lead discoveries in her field. Throughout high school, she has volunteered within her community, inspiring young people through sports with Youth Empowering Parents and serving meals with the Christian Resource Center.



Allidia Aubrey
GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE

Allidia graduated from Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute and will study American Sign Language at George Brown College. Her interest in helping youth in her community and teaching others has influenced her career choice, and she has long wanted to learn American Sign Language as a unique way to communicate with others and as a gateway into new cultures and communities. Her goal is to help kids, youth, and adults with autism or speech delay so that she can change lives.



Ayanna Greenaway
SENECA COLLEGE

Ayanna Greenaway says growing up in a less privileged community with her mom has shown her the struggles of a single parent household. She has volunteered with Visions of Science for several years as a mentor to children from grades three to eight. As a recent community project, she produced a video showing how the COVID-19 virus enters and infects the body. Ayanna will study Early Childhood Education at Seneca College.



Chiamaka Akadinma
CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

Chiamaka is focused on solving problems to alleviate the conditions of those in need. As an aspiring Social Worker pursuing her BSW, she enjoys connecting the dots: from ideas from different disciplines to people in other teams and fields. Her vision is to be a haven for hurting hearts and a voice for the voiceless.



Ekram Maye
YORK UNIVERSITY

Ekram's sister inspired her to study Global Health before pursuing a nursing degree for a career in healthcare. Passionate about giving back, she aspires to be able to use her education to aid and support underprivileged groups, helping her neighbours in the same way they've helped her.



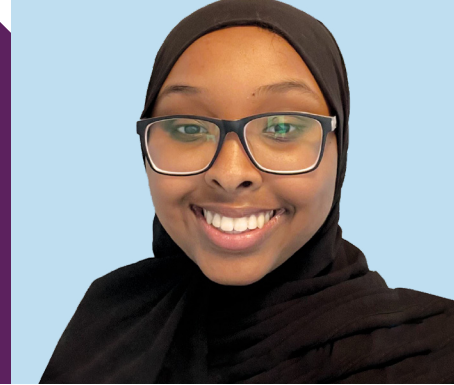
Emmanuella Bonsu
YORK UNIVERSITY

Emmanuella will be attending York University beginning this fall. She plans to get a degree in nursing, after first completing a certificate in Pre-Health Science for a year.



Firdaus Shallo
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Growing up, Firdaus was surrounded by students who felt trapped by a system that did not believe in them. After a teacher helped to instill a passion for advocacy, she now wants to become an instrumental lead in advocating for student voices and growth. Firdaus is pursuing a degree in International Relations and Computer Science to achieve this goal.



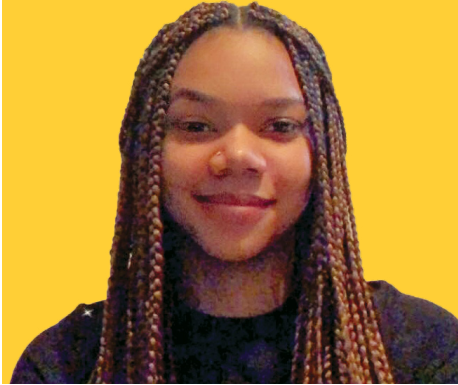
Hafza Araye
SENECA COLLEGE, YORK UNIVERSITY

Hafza's mother has always told her she can become whatever she dreams of, while instilling in her the value of helping others without expecting anything in return. This support and guidance has inspired Hafza to pursue a career in nursing, the perfect path for someone who takes happiness in seeing others thrive.



Isatu Barrie
YORK UNIVERSITY

Bringing positivity wherever she goes, Isatu motivates those she mentors to think big and outside the box. As she embarks on a degree in Political Science, she hopes to use her education to support her neighbours and ensure fairness in the legal system. Isatu aspires to defend the rights and freedom of the people of the Jane and Finch community, and communities like it everywhere.



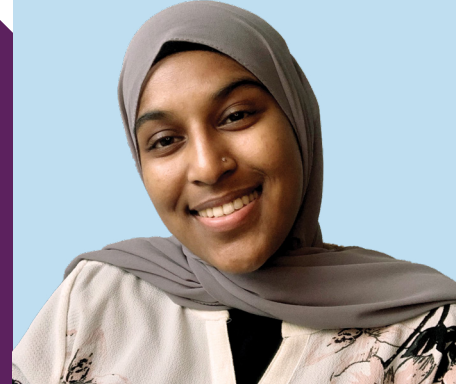
Jamila Yusuf
CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

As the first in her family to attend college, Jamila has been inspired to become a teacher and provide future students with greater opportunities to succeed. Chasing her dream of becoming an Early Childhood Educator in the Toronto District School Board brings joy to both Jamila and her ever-supportive family.



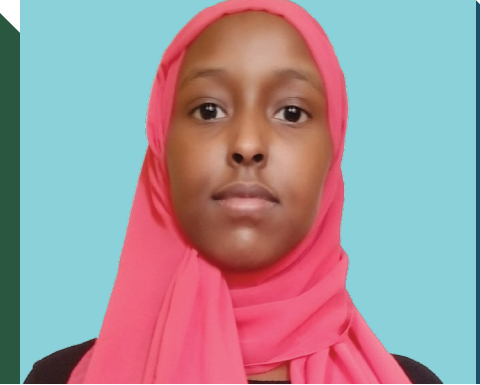
Kwasi Adu-Poku
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

A former member of the McMaster University men's basketball team, Kwasi received the Most Outstanding Male Graduate Award for his performance, character, and community work. He used his athletic and mental health experiences to launch The Reach Series, an organization that supports personal development through workshops and panels. He is now pursuing a Master's in Public Policy and Administration.



Lamisa Ahmed
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Growing up, Lamisa always knew that she wanted to pursue a career in neuroscience. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to explore her passions and interests, while meeting new people. She looks forward to making the most of the experiences that four years of studying Health Sciences at the University of Toronto will bring.



Maryama Ulusow
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Maryama chose the Child and Youth Care program at Ryerson University because she wants to change the way the child welfare system works. She wants to help end systemic abuse and racism in the system. Her goal is to use the tools and resources given to her to create a platform to fight for the vulnerable. After experiencing personal loss from COVID-19, she is even more committed to working with people to show them they are not alone.



Mickayla Francis-Campbell
CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

Mickayla plans to attend Centennial College to study Social Service Work and eventually transfer to either York or Ryerson University. She says she has always envisioned a career where she could make a change in her community and leave an impact on society. She chose to study Social Service Work in order to make a life-changing impact within various communities.



Shada Barkho
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

Shada graduated from St. Joseph's Marrow Park Catholic Secondary School in Toronto. She will attend Queen's University for a Bachelor of Arts Honours program to study Psychology and its more specific branches. Along with school, Shada plans to start her own business in the future.



Oriyomi Tinuke Gani
**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
AT HUMBER**

Oriyomi attended both Emery Collegiate Institute and Westview Centennial Secondary School. She worked to cultivate a safe space for Black students at Emery and planned and led annual school conferences for Black students based on topics relative to Black experiences. She plans to study Social Work with a focus on youth development. She plans to become a social worker within secondary schools to work closely with youth to support their development.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“Dentons Canada is excited to celebrate you and your excellent accomplishments. Your academic journey looks bright. Your contributions will surely benefit the lives of our many communities as you promote social justice, inclusion and diversity. We are so proud to support you as you build your promising careers! Congratulations on your graduation and best of luck on a brilliant future.”

Michael Schafler

**Partner, Dentons Canada LLP
Dentons Diversity Scholarships**



**Maryam Hassan
OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL,
YORK UNIVERSITY**

Maryam is dedicated to providing legal assistance for marginalized communities. During her time at Osgoode Hall Law School, she has helped Indigenous populations obtain identification and access basic social services, promote inclusivity through her exploration of intersectional identities through art workshops, and volunteered at Neighbourhood Legal Services during the pandemic. Maryam is currently preparing education manuals about anti-Black racism in the criminal justice system.



**Javonte Eleson
YORK UNIVERSITY**

As a student at St. Basil-the-Great college secondary school, Javonte was active in several community projects, and volunteered for the Toronto Blue Jays camp. He was also engaged in community outreach activities to work with children and feed the homeless. His career goals are to graduate with honors from York University before attending law school, specializing in real estate law.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“ We at the Newman Foundation are honored to be helping you achieve some of your goals and dreams. The Foundation was set up to help people and we believe in higher education. The skills, the learning, the growing and the people who you will meet at postsecondary will hopefully enhance your life and open doors to helping others. Congratulations on your achievements; when we read the bios we are wonderfully pleased to ponder the quality of people who win the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarships. Most important – congratulations to you! ”

Doug Lowry

**Chairman, Toronto (Central)
Lions Club**

**Harry A. Newman Memorial
Foundation Diversity Scholarship**



Liban Ahmed-Arif
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Driven by his passion, Liban dreams of continuing his education in the pharmaceutical field as well as his work for the community. He is studying Chemistry at Ryerson, and within ten years of graduating, he sees himself improving the safety of medical devices while ensuring all Canadians have access to safe drugs.



Britney Trinh
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

A recent graduate of Jarvis Collegiate Institute with over 500 volunteer hours, Britney has always been inspired by the power of medicine. Now pursuing an Engineering degree, her aspiration is to help maximize pharmaceutical production to ensure that life-saving medication is widely available to all. One day, she hopes to shape the future of the pharmaceutical industry.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“ Scadding Court thanks and congratulates all the very deserving youth on their achievements. It’s a joy to recognize your hard work, and to celebrate you. ”

Herman Ellis
Executive Director
Scadding Court
Community Centre



Sawsan Rezig
YORK UNIVERSITY

Sawsan Rezig is a student at York University studying for an undergraduate degree at Glendon College in French Studies and Education. She has a passion for teaching and was a peer tutor in high school. Sawsan continues to be a French tutor, and is passionate about art, music, and linguistics. She also enjoys swimming, soccer, figure skating, biking, and track & field. Her ambition is to become a high school French immersion teacher.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“Congratulations to all of the IIODS recipients! You have already achieved so much by your hard work and determination to succeed. Stay strong and hold on to your dreams in this challenging time. You have all chosen fields of study that will have a positive impact, and we wish you the best in your future studies.”

Dr. Gary Newton
President & CEO,
Sinai Health System
Sinai Health System
Diversity Scholarships



Amina Mowlid
MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

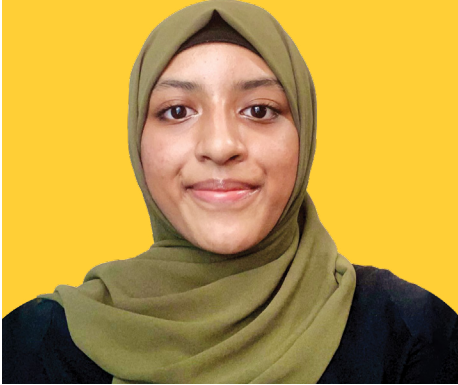
Amina is in her third year of studies, completing a double major in Health and Society as well as Political Science. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a Master’s in Public Health. Her research includes examining the impacts of food insecurity and the importance of fostering safe spaces to promote early childhood development.



Mohamed Mowlid
UNIVERSITY OF ORADEA

Mohamed Mowlid dreamed of attending a post-secondary school and becoming successful to help support his family. This inspired Mohamed to become a physician, and he worked tirelessly to secure a place in medical school. He is grateful to everyone who believed in him.

Sinai Health System Diversity Scholarships



Mumtahina Mahabub
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

A second-generation Canadian studying Neuroscience at the University of Toronto, Mumtahina aims to pursue a career in medicine and work with Doctors Without Borders. She runs DearFutureMe, which combats barriers faced by youth entering high school. Her community involvement also includes fighting food insecurity at a local food bank, teaching at-risk youth computer literacy, and resolving community issues regarding the revitalization of Regent Park.



Naima Rahman
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

A graduate of Jarvis Collegiate Institute, Naima will study Life Science. She has volunteered at Nelson Mandela Park Homework Club aiding elementary students with math and English. She is also the head of a non-profit organization called Medlife in Jarvis, where she helps low-income families in Peru. In addition, she is a volunteer at the Online PAL Program at Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre, where she connects with seniors to provide them with support and companionship during the pandemic.



Omar Hassan
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

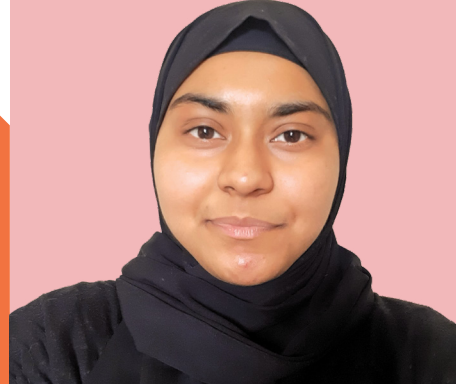
In high school, Omar founded an Eco-Club and ran a virtual tutoring program to improve the accessibility of academic support for Black students in his community. He also worked at MLSE LaunchPad as a Leader in Training. He is now studying Life Sciences at the University of Toronto, and plans to graduate with a Bachelor of Science.

Sinai Health System Diversity Scholarships



Ranie Ahmed
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Ranie Ahmed is at the University of Toronto pursuing a double major in Human Biology and Health Studies. He previously served as an Academic Don in the Summer Mentorship Program at the University of Toronto: Temerty Faculty of Medicine, and has also conducted research on the collection of race-based data during the COVID-19 pandemic. He intends to combine his interests in community-based research and the social determinants of health with a career in medicine.



Samia Mehzabin
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Samia is in the Life Sciences program at the University of Toronto pursuing degree in Biology and Global Health. She then plans to pursue a graduate degree and enter the field of healthcare. She looks forward to working in a hospital, helping people stay in a healthy and safe environment, and continuing to give back to her community. In future, she hopes to create a scholarship like IIODS, as she believes that financial need should never be a deterrent to pursuing an education.



Waleed Ishak
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

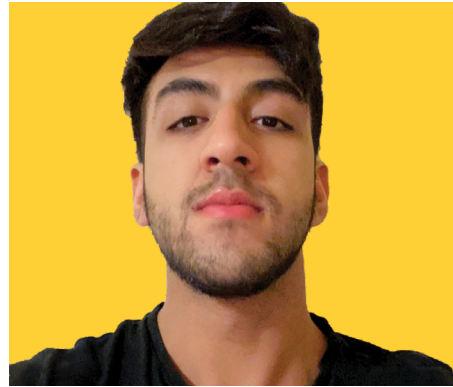
Waleed is completing a double major in Immunology and Health & Disease and hopes to conduct research and eventually be a professor. Inspired by the research efforts of his professors, he plans to apply to post-grad programs in Immunology.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“Tridel recognizes that while talent is universal, opportunities are not, and this is what motivates us to invest in the amazing young adults in the community through scholarship. As city builders, we are committed to creating diverse, inclusive, healthy, and sustainable communities. We need the brilliant minds and exceptional talents that develop through programs like the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship awards. Your success will help shape our shared future and we congratulate you on all that you have already, and have yet to accomplish.”

Danielle Feidler
Senior Vice President
of Brand Experience
Tridel

Tridel Diversity Scholarships



Asghar Jafri
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

An Accounting and Finance student with a passion for teaching and financial literacy, Asghar plans to become a business teacher upon graduation. He hopes to one day help students in the same way that others have helped him, drawing inspiration from the words of Muhammad Ali: “Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”



Dagmawi Getahun
HUMBER COLLEGE

Dagmawi is studying Electrical Techniques with the goal of becoming an electrician and entrepreneur. He brings enthusiasm to all his projects, and says he’s happiest when working with his peers. He plans to seek an apprenticeship on his road to becoming a Journeyman Electrician, before paying his experience forward by taking on apprentices of his own.



Oreofe Ogunlode
WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Oreofe is studying Electrical Engineering at Western University. He plans to work with electrical engineers during his co-op and come up with sustainable ideas that help the environment. He selected Western University in part because of its internships and summer co-op programs, which provide an opportunity to gain work experience.



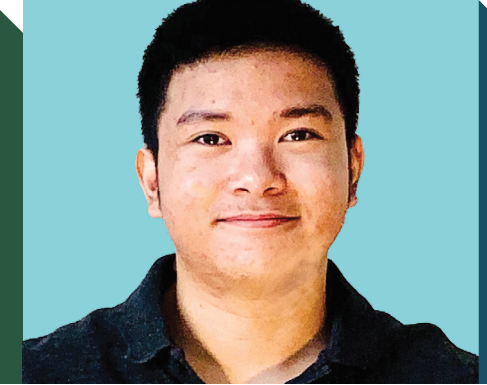
Oreoluwa Ogunlode
YORK UNIVERSITY

Oreoluwa Ogunlode is studying engineering at York University. After he completes his undergraduate studies, he plans on studying for a Master's degree. One day, he dreams of starting his own software development firm to create mobile applications and software solutions. He sees leadership and service as very important as he believes individuals in a society must also serve others.



Tharakan Karunakaran
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY

Tharakan will attend the Smith School of Business to study Commerce at Queen's. Business studies have been his dream, one he feared would be derailed as he has been impacted by poverty throughout his life. At Queen's, he plans to explore various career fields, including Law. He is passionate about creating positive environmental change. He said he now faces the future with greater confidence thanks to the scholarship, and he thanks donors who have helped him.



Vince Gonzales Flores
YORK UNIVERSITY

Vince moved to Canada from the Philippines in 2016 hoping for a better life, and he will be pursuing a degree in Engineering. He is interested in Science and Technology, and is always thrilled to learn and explore new things. In the future he hopes to create useful and innovative solutions to address world problems.

William R. McMurtry Memorial Anti-Racism Scholarship and Blaney McMurtry Diversity Scholarship

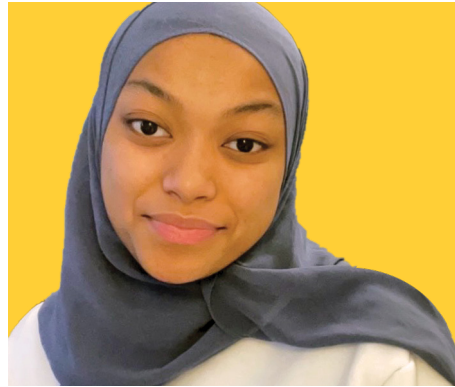
MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“ All of us at Blaney McMurtry are very happy to congratulate each recipient of this year’s Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship. It is your ambition, your hard work, and your dedication that have led you here, and those are the very things that will see to your future success. As leaders of our land in the years to come, your rejection of racism and commitment to a diverse society will continue to make Canada a better place for all of us. We are so very proud to be able to enhance the opportunities that you deserve and look forward to seeing you continue to make your dreams come true. ”

Ian Epstein and Jack Siegel
Partners, Blaney McMurtry LLP

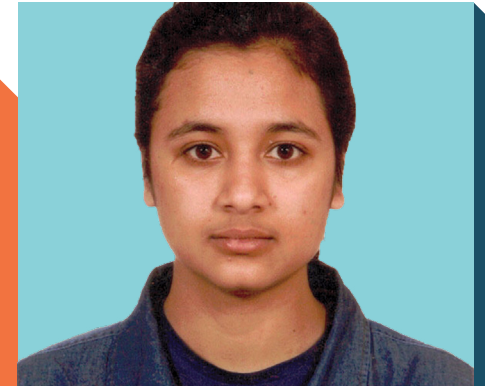
**William R. McMurtry Memorial
Anti-Racism Scholarship**

**Blaney McMurtry
Diversity Scholarship**



Hanan Ali
YORK UNIVERSITY

Hanan is a graduate of Jarvis Collegiate and is currently enrolled at York University studying for a Bachelor of Science in Global Health. Hanan hopes to learn about different social and health determinants within marginalized communities. Her hope is to get to the root of these problems to help these communities. She is excited to enter her studies in the field and ready to start pursuing her dreams.



Nolak Khopa
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Nolak Prapti Khopa is a student at the University of Toronto specializing in Health Studies and Women and Gender Studies. She currently serves as the Director of Advocacy Events for Students for Partners in Health Canada (SPIHC): University of Toronto Chapter and the Director of External Affairs for a non-profit organization named Students for Vaccine Equity (SVE). In addition, she is an Education Coordinator for Bleed the North, a federally registered non-profit organization.

MESSAGE FROM THE DONOR

“Thank you to those who applied to IIODS and congratulations to the scholarship recipients. Programs like these provide an opportunity for youth, who have gone above and beyond in their academic accomplishments to continue to grow and flourish. The world continues to be in need of innovative, diverse and forward-thinking minds. We, at Yardi Canada, wish you the very best of luck and success in your post-secondary educational endeavours.”

Peter Altobelli

**Vice President & General Manager,
Canada Sales, Yardi Canada Ltd.**

Yardi Canada Diversity Scholarships



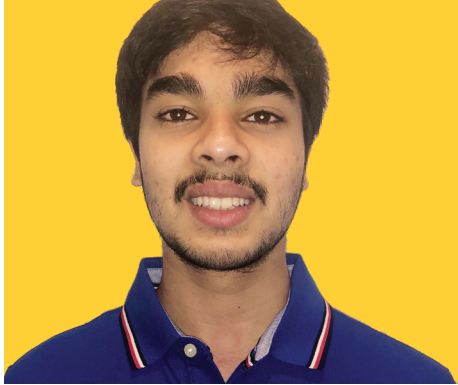
Abderahman Hussein
YORK UNIVERSITY

A York University student in the Information Technology program, Abderahman aspires to work at the intersection of business and technology. He believes in the value of education, both to an individual as well as to the generations that follow. He plans to contribute the knowledge gained on his journey by sharing it with his community.



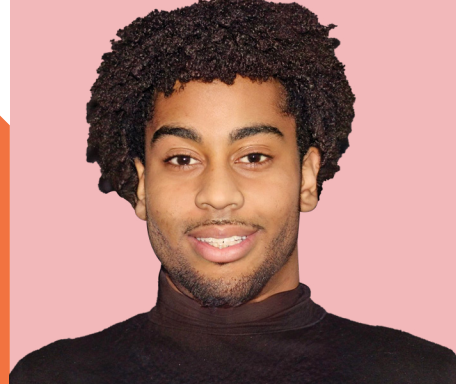
Fiza Qazi
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Fiza's passion for technology began when she joined the Girls Crack the Code Program at age 10, where she developed her skills and built the confidence to become a leader. She is studying for a degree in Business Technology Management, with the ambition to work in a field where she can drive innovation and build a better world for future generations.



Gogigan Srithar
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Gogigan is passionate about developing social cohesion within his community, inspiring his volunteerism and work as a Youth Mentor at MLSE LaunchPad. As he begins the Accounting and Finance program at Ryerson University, he is focused on making the Dean's list, balancing extracurricular activities with academics, and securing a co-op placement to build experience and references.



Isaiah Bazilio
THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

As a first-generation Canadian-Guyanese innovator, Isaiah believes that entrepreneurship is a resource many can use to overcome wealth disparity. His plans include developing policies for government agencies to bring employment and tourism opportunities to emerging nations.



Marwa Sayed
SENECA COLLEGE

Marwa believes that the more she learns, the better she can teach. Her life has been a journey, travelling with her Afghan family from country to country until they found a home in Canada. She aspires to become the kind of teacher who does more than just transfer knowledge, but helps people embrace their differences so they do not feel like they are alone. Upon graduating, Marwa intends to pursue a PhD.



Nadia Islam
RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Nadia Islam was one of the co-heads of Ummah of Tomorrow, a community initiative where Muslim and non-Muslim youth were able to jointly speak on many topics. She also worked at Summerlunch+, a social profit initiative geared towards providing children living in low-income areas with nutritious meals over the summer so they can return to school ready to learn. This fall she will study Business Technology Management at Ryerson University. In the future, she hopes to work in Financial Technology as an analyst or project manager.



Yussuf Mohamed
SENECA COLLEGE

Yussuf Mohamed is a student at Seneca College in the International Accounting and Finance Degree program. After graduation, he hopes to become an Accountant. As a child, he was fascinated by numbers, and he continues to read articles regarding finance and the global economy. He is planning for a financial career in the public sector.



Kanwal Jamal
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Kanwal attended ISNA High School where she founded a club, Girl Code, to motivate girls to pursue STEM fields. Within her community, she has been a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, and Humber Hospital's Endoscopy unit, while also continuing to support youth as a Visions of Science STEM Club facilitator and a Toronto Public Library Leading to Reading tutor. She aspires to become a Software Developer for Google.

Thank you and Acknowledgements

The IIODS team is led by Nadia Gouveia, Director of Programs and Partnerships, Natricia Drummond, Program Development and Evaluation Manager, and Toshania Solomon, Program Supports & Implementation Supervisor.

The team works closely with Rebecca Keenan, Director of Operations, Human Resources and Administration of the Scadding Court Community Centre.

Scadding Court Community Centre is a founding partner of the IIODS program.



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