



October 5, 2015

Hydro Funds New Scholarships for Women in Skilled Trades

ST. JOHN'S, NL - Scholarships of \$2,000 will be awarded to eight female students entering their first year of a skilled trades program. Marking the first year of the 2015 Trades Scholarship for Women program, Women in Resource Development Corporation (WRDC) and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro (Hydro) are pleased to present scholarships to recipients on October 5, 2015.

"With lead funding support from Hydro, WRDC was happy to partner on this initiative. The allocation of the scholarship funds will help our organization increase women's participation in trades and technology, and provide much needed resources to female students pursuing trades programs," stated Cheri Butt, Chief Executive Officer of WRDC.

The Trades Scholarship program represents Hydro's commitment to help the province's women further their educational studies. Each year, Hydro supports educational and academic achievements by providing scholarships to students at Memorial University, College of the North Atlantic and to children of Nalcor Energy and Hydro employees and retirees.

"Over the years Hydro has supported many scholarships that help students achieve their future goals," said Dawn Dalley, Vice President Corporate Relations and Customer Service with Hydro. "This new scholarship is aimed at supporting women who wish to pursue a career in the skilled trades, which is a focus for Hydro."

Hannah Melanson is a welding student from Norris Point. She studies at College of the North Atlantic in St. John's and is one of the successful recipients. She says this scholarship means more to her than just financial support "This scholarship gives me the motivation to succeed. I would like to thank Hydro and WRDC for believing in me and giving me this opportunity."

The diverse group of scholarship recipients are full-time students pursuing exciting careers in programs like Construction/Industrial Electrician, Welding, Millwright, and Heavy Equipment Operator.

The Trades Scholarship for Women was designed to help with the financial challenges full-time female students can face during their first year studies in trades programs.

Hydro, a **Nalcor Energy** company, is the primary generator of electricity in Newfoundland and Labrador. The company has an installed generating capacity of 1, 792 megawatts. Over 80% of the energy generated is clean, hydroelectric generation. Hydro sells its power to utility, industrial and 38,000 residential and commercial customers in over 200 communities across the province. The company is committed to operational excellence while delivering safe, reliable, least-cost electricity

Women in Resource Development Corporation (WRDC) is a provincial non-profit organization committed to increasing women's participation in trades and technology since 1997. With both private and public funding, WRDC, and its Educational Resource Center (ERC), offer a variety of programs and services to address the challenges surrounding the attraction, recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in these sectors.

The recipients and courses of study include:

Courtney Norris - Heavy Equipment Operator;

Barbara Reid - Industrial Mechanic (Millwright);

Amy Bishop - Construction/Industrial Electrician;

Brittany Piercey - Welding;

Melanie Thomas - Construction/Industrial Electrician;

Samantha Carroll-Rolo - Construction/Industrial Electrician;

Leanna Carbage - Welding; and

Hannah Melanson - Welding.

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