

Ellen Beirsto Bursary Fund

Revised – December 2023

Due to the generosity of the congregation and family and friends of Ellen Beirsto, the **Ellen Beirsto Bursary Fund** was established in March 2022 to celebrate her retirement.

The bursary will support two types of bursaries for 10 years beginning in Fall 2023.

Post Secondary Education Bursary

- Two bursaries valued at \$500.00 each will be awarded to students currently pursuing post-secondary education at a university or college (e.g., NBCC, NBCCD, NSCC)
- Applicant may be attending full-time or part-time
- Bursary will be awarded to any individual only once

Special Initiative Bursaries

- Bursaries valued at a maximum of \$200.00 per applicant to cover costs including registration fees, transportation and accommodation
- Bursary is to support an individual's participation in an event or program of particular relevance to them in areas such as social justice, climate change, or leadership development or unique educational opportunities (e.g., SHAD program)
- Bursary will be awarded to any individual only once

Fund Management

- \$10,000 from the current balance in the fund is dedicated to the Post Secondary Education Bursaries so that two bursaries valued at \$500 each can be awarded for 10 years beginning in 2023.
- Special Initiative Bursaries can be awarded annually only if there are funds available after the funds required for the Post Secondary Education Bursaries.
- Other gifts to this fund will be received until December 2032.
- This fund is to be expended by December 2033. Any funds remaining at this time could be used to award an additional Post Secondary Bursary, if sufficient funding is available, or dedicated to Faith Formation activities for children and youth.

Application Process

Post Secondary Education Bursary

Individuals currently enrolled in a university of college may apply for this bursary by submitting a letter outlining:

- a. Reason for choice of program and plans for future – 50%
- b. Involvement in congregation, with preference for Wilmot United, and/or community – 40%
- c. Grades at graduation – 10%

Call for Applications will be issued in October and bursary will be awarded for the following January.

Note: For 2023 only, a call for applications will be issued in April with the bursary awarded for September 2023

Special Initiatives Bursary

Individuals may apply for this bursary by submitting a letter identifying:

- a) Event or program
- b) Reason for wanting to attend
- c) Budget for attending (costs for registration, transportation, accommodation and any other sources of funding)
- d) Potential impact for individual and/or congregation, community or group

Applications may be submitted through the Church Office at any time throughout the year as opportunities are identified, but applications must be received at least 6 weeks before the event.

Selection Committee for All Bursaries

The selection Committee will consist of

- i. Chair of Faith Formation or designate, who will serve as chair of Selection Committee
- ii. Past Chair of Council or designate
- iii. Member from UCW

NOTE: Revisions to these bursaries can be made in consultation with Ellen Beirsto and/or Jeff Beirsto.