

Canadian Nurses Foundation announces first 24 recipients of TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund

Ottawa, September 9, 2009 – The Canadian Nurses Foundation is marking the start of the 2009-2010 academic year by awarding 24 Aboriginal nursing students from colleges and universities across Canada with academic scholarships.

The Canadian Nurses Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the new TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund:

Baccalaureate – \$3,000 awarded to each recipient

Daphne Belleau – Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
Lisa Francis – Craven, Saskatchewan
Betty Jararuse – Makkovic, Newfoundland
Tara Littlechief – Carlyle, Saskatchewan
Christina MacDonald – Forth Smith, NWT
Dayna McCrae - Regina, Saskatchewan
Heather Pastulovic – Kelowna, British Columbia
Julie Poulette – Eskasoni, Nova Scotia
Charlotte Powalinsky – Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
Charlene Teddy – Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
Ashley Watcheston – Woodbridge, Ontario
Jesse Woodward – Edmonton, Alberta
Rochelle Johnson – Lethbridge, Alberta
Neepekan Hunt – Winnipeg, Manitoba
Jocelyn Belzevick – Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
Jade Bye – Quesnel, British Columbia

Master – \$5,000 awarded to each recipient

Cheyenne Mary – Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia
Joanne McGee – Northwest River, Newfoundland
Lisa Perley-Dutcher – Fredericton, New Brunswick

Nurse Practitioner – \$5,000 awarded to each recipient

Tania Dick – Vancouver, British Columbia
Chantelle Evans – Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
Laurianne Lukan – Leoville, Saskatchewan

PhD– \$6,000 awarded to each recipient

Raymonde Lisa Bourque-Bearskin – Beaumont, Alberta

Nicole Helmer – Toronto, Ontario

“In this inaugural year of the TD Aboriginal Nursing Fund, we would like to acknowledge the many students who submitted applications. These scholarships are a direct response to the demand for more Aboriginal nurses across Canada,” said H el ene Sabourin, Executive Director of the Canadian Nurses Foundation.

Rosella Kinoshameg, President of the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada, noted that “This has been a great opportunity for Aboriginal nursing students to apply for scholarships that will assist them in their contributions towards improving the health of the people. This opportunity reached students at the various levels of education across Canada as indicated by the list of recipients.”

“TD couldn’t be more pleased to start the back to school season by recognizing 24 talented students with the financial support to help them further their education,” says Kerry Peacock, EVP Branch Banking, TD Canada Trust. “We believe we can make a positive contribution to Canadian healthcare by investing in the education of our future healthcare practitioners, one scholarship at a time.”

The Canadian Nurses Foundation and the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada offer sincere thanks to TD Bank Financial Group for its support of Aboriginal nursing education.

The Canadian Nurses Foundation supports world-class Canadian healthcare by raising funds to advance nursing scholarship and research, and recognizing professional excellence in Canada’s nurses. The Foundation recently launched *Nursing 4.0*, a fundraising campaign to raise \$4 million over four years for the next generation of nursing and healthcare.

Media contacts:

Jonelle Istead
Canadian Nurses Foundation
613-237-2159 ext. 204
jistead@cnf-fiic.ca

Gregory Harrison
TD Bank Financial Group
416-308-8597
gregory.harrison@td.com