

**ALBERTA Chinook Winds and Northern Spirit Regions STUDENT BURSARY FUND of
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Annual Report for April 1, 2019-March 31, 2020**

*Then I heard the voice of God saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?
And I said, "Here am I; send me!" Isaiah 6: 8*

The Conference Student Bursary Fund Society, which had its inaugural meeting May 24 1991, offers bursaries to students in ministry training.

The funds are raised from the regular generous donations each year mainly from the annual **Celebration of Ministry Services** and also from individuals, congregations and groups during the year. The Society is very thankful for such regular generosity. Several groups of the UCW and the Women of the United Church regularly support the Student Bursary Society. We are very thankful for exceptional gifts such as from the former pastoral charges offering funds from the sale of their church buildings.

Once they have become candidates, students have the opportunity to apply to the Student Bursary Fund three times during their studies and then to receive funds due to the generosity of the whole church. The total cost of their studies per student is about **\$40,000** or more. Each bursary assists a student toward the annual tuitions, course costs, accommodation and travel for those in regional field placements and learning sites/internships and for any other unexpected costs.

The number of students varies from year to year. We have steadily increased the amount of our bursaries given. From April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2020, **\$ 17,600.00** was given in bursaries. Order of Ministry Candidates received \$1,600 each (5 were diaconal candidates and 6 were ordained candidates.) If there were any designated lay students, they would receive \$1,400.

As Temporary Chairperson for the Student Bursary Fund of the Alberta Chinook Winds and Northern Lights Student Bursary Fund, I appreciate the wisdom of the Directors of the Board who have offered this ministry this past year. Due to my illness, 2018 to present, Karen Spiess filled in as Chairperson until her grandson died in the spring of 2019.

The Directors for 2019-20 were: Carolynne Bouey Shank, Chairperson; Karen Spiess, Past Chairperson; Pamela Milton, Treasurer; Doug Settle; Sandra Child, UCW Representative; and Phyllis Greenslade, Candidate Liaison. We are thankful for the guidance of Shannon McCarthy Executive Minister of Northern Lights Regional Council as our Liaison.

Now with the transition to the new model of Regional Councils, the decision was made at our Annual Meeting held June 13, 2020 to disband the Society, and to change the Society into a Student Bursary Fund Committee of Northern Spirit Regional Council. The Motion was accepted. There was much discussion that followed. Since such a committee could only be accountable to one Region.; A choice had to be made for north or south, but candidates from both regions can still be eligible for bursaries. Provisions must be made to provide information over both regions equally re all aspects of the Student Bursary Fund including, accessibility, fund raising, donations, and committee membership. We are very thankful for the support of printing and mailing by Kathy Jackson at the Northern Spirit Region Office.

If being a Director of the Student Bursary Fund is a ministry to which you have a calling and interest, please contact Carolynne Bouey Shank: cboueyshank@telus.net.

On behalf of the students we offer a grateful "Thank you" for your financial support and encouragement of this ministry and of the call of our ministry students.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolynne Bouey Shank, Temporary Chairperson, Student Bursary Fund