

# Rotary Club Literacy Bursary

School of Foundational Learning Awards Ceremony

March 2018

Prepared for:

Rotary Club of Calgary

Presented by:

Anne Georg, Stewardship Officer

[ageorg@bowvalleycollege.ca](mailto:ageorg@bowvalleycollege.ca) | 403-410-1414

## You open doors for learners.

**Thank you for your critical support through the Rotary Club of Calgary Literacy Award.  
Our learners have benefitted enormously from your generosity over the years.**

This year is no different. Your invaluable support has lifted heavy burdens from the shoulders of adults who return to learning at Bow Valley College. Your award helps them succeed in school, in their careers — and in their lives.

We've compiled words of appreciation and a few photos from the School of Foundational Learning Awards Ceremony on March 15, 2018. We thank you for attending the event and adding a special touch for the students who received the Rotary Club of Calgary Literacy Award.

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*“Thank you again for recognizing my achievements and giving myself and others like me the help and confidence to further our education. I am forever grateful for it.” — Amy Davidson*

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### **Jason Monkman**

Jason is a proud Anishinaabe man from the Waywayseecappo nation in Manitoba. His family and his culture mean the world to him, and as a father of 7 he has been a solid mentor and support ensuring that all of his children find passion and pride in their own cultural, academic and athletic pursuits. Receiving this award has let Jason know that his hard work and while facing difficulties has not gone unnoticed, and it has given him the motivation to do his best and succeed.

*Jason Monkman receives his Rotary Club of Calgary Award from Al McMillan, with Dean of Foundational Learning, Keith Seel, left.*



It is an honour to be a recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary-Winter. I made the decision to go back to school and upgrade my courses at Bow Valley College, so that I could get into the Auto Technician program at SAIT. I want to achieve my goals at Bow Valley College and SAIT so that I can provide a healthy home for my family as they have always been my number one supporters throughout my struggles.

I am 38 years old and I have a total of seven children, three are adults now and live on their own, my other four children still live at home with me and my spouse. There are many reasons why I want to finish my upgrading at Bow Valley College, I would like to prove to myself that I can do it and more importantly, be a positive role model to my children.

Thank you for choosing me as a recipient for the Rotary Club Bursary. I am really grateful to have been nominated and chosen to receive this bursary. Yours sincerely, Jason Monkman

### **Heyi Dadafo**

Heyi came to Canada from Ethiopia. He has been with Bow Valley College for the past two years and is currently working towards his childhood dream of becoming a nurse. His teachers commend him for his hard work and dedication and his continued accomplishments towards his goal. In his free time he enjoys reading, listening to music and in the summer, bike riding.

I'm from Ethiopia. I came to Canada in June 2015. I came with my sister and her husband.

In the end, I would say, thank you very much for choosing me for this award. This award encourages me to work hard for my future courses. Yours sincerely, Heyi Dadafo

### **Amy Davidson**

Amy was born in Nova Scotia. Her journey to Bow Valley was by way of a detour to Germany where she worked as a nanny and immersed herself in a different language and culture. Amy has many interests, and she pursues them all with a deep level of commitment and connection — she is an excellent role model to her peers and her children. Amy intends to continue her studies at Bow Valley College in either the Disability Studies program or the Education Assistant program, as means of pursuing her desire to work with differently abled children and help them realize their potentials.

I am a single parent of two small children ages 6 and 5. My six year old who has Autism and a severe speech delay is one of the many reasons this career path is what I want to do. I want to see him and others like him succeed and enjoy life just as much as anyone else has the opportunity to. Being given this award not only helps me in my studies but shows them how hard work pays off and how you will be rewarded for the effort you put in. Thank you again for recognizing my achievements and giving myself and others like me the help and confidence to further our education. I am forever grateful for it. Yours sincerely, Amy Davidson

### **Fatna Omer Idris**

Originally from Eritrea, Fatna has been a learner at BVC for about 3 years. Her goal is to take the LPN program and become a nurse. Fatna's teachers describe her as an excellent student with a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and excellent attendance. Fatna is very grateful for this award.

Thank you for this award called the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary. I am studying upgrading and my next step I will take the LPN course.  
I am from Eritrea and I have being in Canada for 4 years. I am studying full time and working at the same time and this makes me very happy and proud of myself.  
Thank you again for your support. Yours sincerely, Fatna Omer Idris

### **Iman Issa**

Iman came to Canada from Somalia and has lived in Toronto as well as Calgary. After Upgrading, Iman will continue her work to both a Social Work and Disability Studies diploma. Her greatest rewards are those that she receives as a mother and a student, and she sees this award as a manifestation of the words she cherishes from the book "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho: "When you want something all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it".

### **Juliana Tran**

Juliana has been studying at Bow Valley College for two years. During that time, she has become famous around campus for dancing in the hallways between classes. When she isn't dancing, studying, and encouraging her classmates, she is busy participating in bowling, swimming, golf, basketball, snowshoeing, and the Special Olympics. She is very proud to receive this award today.

*Juliana Tran receives here Rotary Club of Calgary Literacy Award from Al McMillan, with Dean of the School of Foundational Learning Keith Seel on the left.*



Thank you for my award  
it made me proud of my  
life. My family came to  
Bow Valley College and  
they were excited for me.  
I like learning new things  
at school.

Juliana Tran

**We join our learners in saying Thank You! Your support changes lives.**

