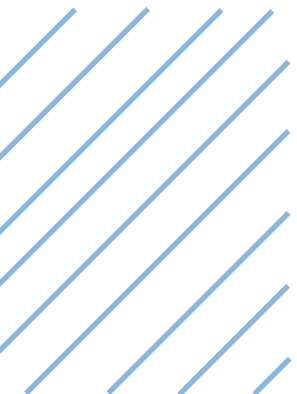


# INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

2024 SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS





## Mark Bent

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

Mark Bent was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy and Charcot Marie Tooth Disease at a young age and has had multiple reconstructive surgeries throughout his life.

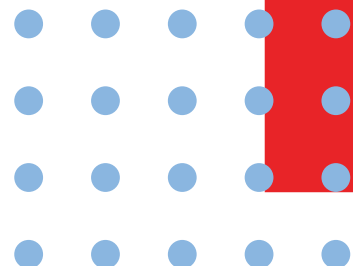
He is going into his second year of studies at the NSCC Kingstec campus, focusing on the financial services concentration.

Mark is one of those rare people who possess undeniable discipline, energetic drive, and inspiration that can light up a room. With charisma and a desire to raise the spirits of those around him, he has been able to face numerous challenges while making his own aspirations a reality.

The impact that he has left in his wake is a remarkable example of adaptability, tenacity, and generosity. Beginning his employment with Michaels in 2019, he quickly surpassed everyone's expectations on his climb towards manager, framer, and quality team member. With his ability to handle customer relations, aid in challenges and changes, and to see creative outcomes, he has earned respect from his peers and leaders alike while representing consistency and professionalism in the Michaels community.

He has established a great connection with international students and their cultures during their stay and period of study. Being an advocate for education and mentorship has reflected the standards of the NSCC family and the importance of collective progression.

His disciplined approach to life, accompanied by his resilience in the face of physical challenges, demonstrates the qualities that define and drive his personal goals. He epitomizes what it means to be driven, disciplined, and inspiring. The journey to where he stands today is the evidence of hard work, dedication, time, and the belief that change can happen if you are determined to make it happen. Mark Bent continues to brighten the day and inspire everyone that he encounters while striving for the success that the future holds, accepting every challenge with courage and confidence.





## Breanna Mailman

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

Hi my name is Breanna Mailman I am 17 years old and have attended Landmark East school for the last six years. I live with my mom in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. I was diagnosed with a learning difference in reading and writing and struggled to learn in the public school system. After attending Landmark East. I've developed confidence not only in my reading and writing abilities but also in other areas of my life.

My extra curricular activities include 4-H member as well as being a junior leader for the cake decorating project for other members, I am a junior member at the Annapolis valley shooting sports club, I spent time volunteering in the community for suppers and lunches, I was in Girl Guides for 8 years and received the Lady Baden Powell Award. In my free time I really enjoy hanging out with my friends and my family. I enjoy the outdoors, hiking and camping, but my most favourite thing to do is driving my truck.

My mom taught me at a very early age that by working hard you can achieve your dreams. I work part time at a local independent grocery store to help pay for some of my extra curricular activities. I've been interested in heavy equipment for many years and have secured Summer employment with Dexters. I will be attending classes in a heavy equipment operators course at NSCC Port Hawkesbury.

I feel honoured that my fellow students and teachers have nominated me to be the valedictorian for the class of 2024 at Landmark East school. What an amazing year grade 12 has been however I am now ready to go out into the world and start the next chapter in my life. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me gain the confidence I need to succeed and made me the person I am today, thank you for believing in me.



## **Peter William McNeil**

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

Peter is a grade 12 student at Citadel High School in Halifax. After he graduates in June. He will be attending Dalhousie University this September. Peter has always had an interest in politics and plans on studying politics at university and may also minor in environmental sustainability. He volunteered with his local Federal NDP candidate in 2020 and in his spare time reads about anything related to politics. His reading has also included global history and geography. After university Peter would like to use his efforts through his political career in many areas but especially in the climate change fight and to help those without a voice in our society. Peter lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia with his family and two cats. He continues to enjoy playing floorball with his team in his spare time and is excited to graduate high school in June. This summer he will look for summer work and enjoy the summer weather as he prepares for university in the fall. Today he is here with his mother and grandmother and he would like to say a big thank you for this scholarship.



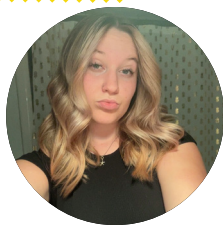
## **Natalie Newcomb**

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

Hi my name is Natalie Newcomb. I'm a grade 12 student at Landmark East, an alternative learning institution . Once at Landmark, I was able to understand my learning differences and began to feel successful in both my academics and personal life. Throughout my high school experience I volunteered in my community with my school and volunteered for Big Brothers Big Sisters. After graduation, I will be attending NSCC Kingstec Campus for Tourism and hospitality; hopefully followed by a Library Sciences degree. My goal is to work for the Walt Disney Company someday, specifically in the archives department.



**LEO**



## Jenna Pelkey

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

Hi my name is Jenna Pelkey, I am 18 years old and I go to Parkview Education Centre. In September I am heading off to Fredericton, New Brunswick to take a Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies at St Thomas University! In going to university I hope to become a social worker, that has been my dream for a long time now and I am willing to do everything I can to get there.



## Cooper Bowden

*(Sponsored by Scotiabank)*

My name is Cooper Bowden and I'm a Grade 12 student at North Nova Education Centre in New Glasgow, NS.

Starting school wasn't the easiest for me as I was diagnosed with ADHD and Autism by Gr. 2. There were several challenges with this including environmental sensitivities and communication barriers. I had a teacher in Gr.5 that taught me that showcasing my abilities instead of focusing on my struggles, would allow for me to shine! I worked hard at bringing awareness to my peers of what living with Autism is like. Knowledge is power!

I am starting in the fall at UPEI taking a Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Design Engineering. This aligns perfectly with my keen interest in designing and building with special emphasis on efficiency. In the future I'd love to use my degree to work with the worldwide housing crisis by designing and building economical and energy efficient homes with 3D Printing. Can't wait to begin!!!



## **Benjamin Barrie**

*(Sponsored by The Smith Family)*

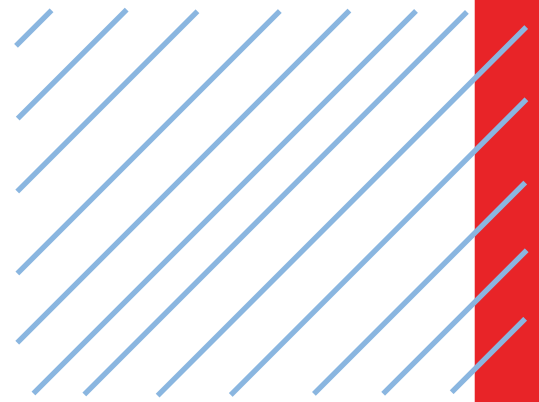
My name is Benjamin Barrie, I am currently entering the second year of my Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) degree at Dalhousie University. During my time at Dalhousie, I have been an advocate on the national level as an Associate Delegate for Dalhousie on the Canadian Nursing Student Association (CNSA). As of May 1st, 2024, I was elected to be a Co-President of the Dalhousie University Nursing Society. One of my main goals this upcoming year is to advocate and promote diversity and accessibility for people with autism in the program and Nursing in general. When I am not studying, I enjoy playing golf, hiking and spending time in the outdoors. I value family and close friends and try to surround myself with people who support me and my aspirations for the future. My long-term goal is to graduate from my BScN program and work as a Registered Nurse. Moving further ahead I would like to return to graduate school in the hope of beginning research on Autism in Nursing.



## **Ashley Bona**

*(Sponsored by Casino Nova Scotia, Halifax)*

I'm a student of New Germany Rural High School (NGRHS), going to take Carpentry at NSCC. Mini Carpenter, Join a Carpentry company or make my own Carpentry Company. Stubborn, Kind, and hard working. My favourite show is Series Of Unfortunate Events.





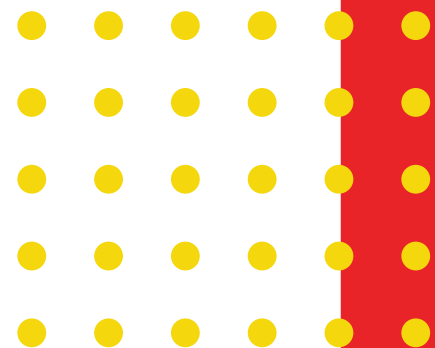
## Ella Fraser

*(Sponsored by Casino Nova Scotia, Sydney)*

My name is Ella Fraser, I am 17 years old and I will be graduating from South Colchester Academy this June. I grew up on my family's farm in Middle Stewiacke and have gone to schools within our small community where everyone knows everyone. I have been accepted to Dalhousie University in Halifax for Bachelor Of Science (Recreation). This is going to be a very big change.

I help coach a kid's development/self-defense class with a focus on holistic growth called 'WingS Academy.' Here we teach skills from coordination to social skills, emotions, how to navigate challenges, etc. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing them be so proud of their progress and growth. I have struggled on my own for most of my life. It wasn't until grade 10 that I had a teacher to notice and fight for my right to be seen. Without my high school resource teacher, I would have never been able to get where I am. I am beyond thankful.

I have always been an empath and knew I wanted to work with children and help people live their best lives. I grew up very active and have played sports for most of my life. Volleyball has always been my main sport. It has been my life for the past 9 years. I want to become a recreational therapist to give children going through those challenging times the support and safe space to learn, grow, and heal by letting go of all that worry and allowing themselves to just have fun. I want to prove that you can still do whatever you want in life, no matter what anyone thinks your limitations are.





## **Mya Barnett**

*(Sponsored by CIBC)*

Hi! My name is Mya Barnett, and I'm going into my third year of studies at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia! I'm currently in an undergraduate Bachelor of Arts program double majoring in Psychology and History. At Dalhousie, I am a part of the Women's Field Lacrosse Team, and I am a part of the Dalhousie Medical Brigade volunteering in hospitals this summer in Athens, Greece. I plan to go on to law school after completing my Bachelors degree! In my childhood, I was diagnosed with an autoimmune disorder which affects my mobility, joints and nervous system. I continue to manage and overcome my health challenges in pursuing my education and professional goals, as well as continuing the activities I enjoy and proudly representing Dalhousie University!



**LEO**

**8**





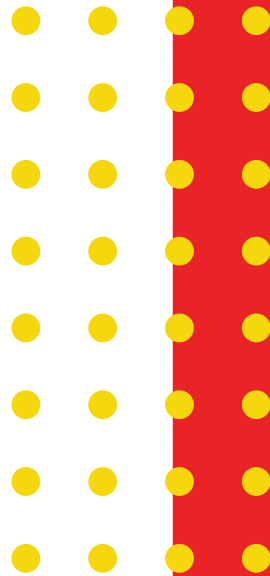
## Cheyenne Fisher

*(Sponsored by Alex Peeler Mixed Media Fund)*

Cheyenne Fisher is a resident of Middle Stewiacke, Nova Scotia and is a graduate of South Colchester Academy in Brookfield. She is the second child of two, and is supported by her proud parents, Michael and Jacquelyn Locke.

Cheyenne struggled a lot through the years because she didn't have a lot of friends or any sports to fall back on, so she focused on the only thing she felt like she had, which was school. School wasn't easy for Cheyenne due to a learning disability that makes it difficult for her to perform tasks related to word reading and decoding, sentence composition, numerical operations, and fluency for multiplication facts. She also struggled with reading comprehension, math problem solving, and fluency for addition and subtraction. Despite her challenges, Cheyenne always put her best effort into every assignment she was given and has achieved high academic standing in her classes.

Cheyenne is going into her first year of university at Saint Mary's University where she will complete BA in psychology. She enjoys learning about other people and how they feel and why they act the way they act and has plans to pursue a career as clinical psychologist. Cheyenne has big dreams and will always keep her mind set on the goal.



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