

2023 ONA BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE INITIATIVE

What is the ONA Building a Better Future Initiative?

The Building a Better Future Initiative provides financial support to eligible Syilx Okanagan Nation members. This scholarship, bursary and awards initiative recognizes student perseverance and achievement to encourage our members to continue their educational pursuits.

These scholarships, bursaries and awards are for students starting or continuing a post-secondary program in the fall of 2023.

Important!

Read the terms carefully before completing your application and relevant supporting documentation. *Students are welcome to apply for multiple awards – please see all available awards on our website.*

Who is Eligible to Apply?

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- You must be attached by ancestry, identity, and community to the Syilx Okanagan Nation
- Registered or applied to attend an accredited post-secondary institution on a full-time basis between: September 2023 - April 2024 (unless otherwise noted in the specific award listing)

Important Dates

- **Awards Application Deadline:** application packages must be received by 3 pm on July 14, 2023
- **Award Announcement:** July 28, 2023
- **Payments:** September 2023

Application Package Requirements

- Students must ensure all application requirements are met before applying (See Checklist!)
- Students must take responsibility to ensure that all information is up-to-date and included in the submission package.
- Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Include all attachments in one email. We will send you an email notification when your application has been received.

Email to:

Tara Montgomery: tmontgomery@syilx.org

Available Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards:

1. FortisBC an Education for Life Awards - \$3000

While building the Terasen Gas Southern Crossing Pipeline, Terasen Gas (now FortisBC) forged strong relationships with the member communities of the Okanagan Nation Alliance. In recognition, since 2009 Fortis BC established a Financial Award for Syilx Okanagan Nation members who are committed to building a better future for themselves and their community through post-secondary pursuits.

\$1500 Education for Life Award (2 available)

Open to students enrolled in full time studies in a two-year college diploma, certificate or trades program or a four-year undergraduate program at an accredited college or university in the fall of 2023.

2. EMB Awards for Syilx Students - \$10,000

Formed in 2014, EMB Management Ltd. ("EMB") offers project development, project delivery, engineering, construction management and construction inspection services to utility and infrastructure clients across Western Canada. To help support Syilx Okanagan Nation members in furthering their education, EMB introduced \$10,000 in awards in 2022 as a component of our Building a Better Future Initiative. **Their contribution will provide the following awards:**

\$3500 Engineering Scholarship

- Open to students studying Engineering in the fall of 2023.
 - Planning to attend an accredited post-secondary institution on a full-time basis pursuing a full-time (4 course minimum) engineering program.
 - Applicants must be enrolled in a post-secondary institution or display proof of acceptance to qualify.

\$1500 Surveying, Mapping, or Geomatics Bursary

This bursary is open to an undergraduate student studying surveying, mapping, or geomatics in the fall of 2023.

\$1500 Business Bursary

This bursary is open to an undergraduate student enrolled in full time studies in the fall of 2023 who intends to study Business, Business Administration, Commerce, or Management.

\$1500 Walking My Learning Forward Award

Open to students enrolled in full time studies in a two-year college diploma, certificate or trades program or a four-year undergraduate program at an accredited college or university in the fall of 2023.

3. Progressive Fence Syilx Bursary – \$1500

Progressive Fence Installations Ltd. has been providing fencing and security solutions in British Columbia for over 35 years. In 1981 Progressive Fence started out as an installation company and expanded into an industry leader providing customers with state of the art technology in fencing, security products, access controls and entry gate systems. Their contribution has provided \$1500 towards students pursuing post-secondary education.

\$1500 Progressive Fence Syilx Bursary

Open to students enrolled in full time studies in a two-year college diploma, certificate or trades program or a four-year undergraduate program at an accredited college or university in the fall of 2023.

Additional Scholarship Available for High School Graduates:

Syilx Siya Awards For High School Graduates of 2022/2023 - \$3000

***Separate application and deadline. Please see our website for the Syilx Siya Awards application.**

The Syilx Siya Bursary is awarded to 3 Syilx Okanagan high school graduates who have demonstrated a willingness to dream big for themselves, their Nation, their community, and/or their family. Award recipients will have educational goals and the drive to make them happen!

\$1000 High School Graduate Bursary (3 available)

Open to students who graduate high school within the 2022/23 school year.

- Provide thoughtful, planned, and fully developed essay (written or video) responses.

Sponsors:

EMB

Formed in 2014, EMB Management Ltd. ("EMB") offers project development, project delivery, engineering, construction management and construction inspection services to utility and infrastructure clients across Western Canada. To help support Syilx Okanagan Nation members in furthering their education, EMB introduced \$10,000 in awards in 2022 as a component of our Building a Better Future Initiative. For the Syilx Siya Bursary, EMB has donated \$2000 towards two of the three Syilx Siya awards available.

HI Traxx Contracting and Lance McLean

Hi Traxx Contracting and Lance McLean have donated \$1000 towards one of the three Syilx Siya awards available.

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General Award Application Form

The information provided in the application will be used for the purposes of administering, awarding, and promoting the Building a Better Future Program. You may be contacted about future employment, training, or financial support opportunities.

Name:			
Email:		Phone:	
Mailing Address:			
City:		Postal Code:	
Syilx Okanagan Nation Affiliation:			
High School:		Grad Date:	
Post-Secondary Institution:		Program:	
Length of Program:		Current Year of Study:	
Which Bursary(s) Are You Applying For:			

Checklist

- Completed Application Form
- Identify which awards you are applying for – you can apply for multiple with one application
- Copy of your status card or letter from member community confirming syilx Okanagan ancestry
- Copy of your post-secondary registration and/or acceptance letter
- Personal Narrative (2 parts)
- Unofficial transcripts from your most recent studies
- 2 reference letters – one needs to speak to your community involvement the other as to why you are deserving of the awards that you have applied for

By signing, I agree to the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) collecting, processing, and disclosing my information and contacting me with opportunities related to employment, training, scholarships, and bursaries. I agree to ONA using my name and photo in external and internal communications including websites and social media. I understand that the information I have provided is subject to verification and audit.

Student signature:		Date:	
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Consent of parent or guardian for applicants under the age of 18: The parent or guardian of the person named above, consent to the above-named student applying for the ONA Building a Better Future Award and to the disclosure of personal information for use during this application process.

Print Name:		Address:	
Parent or guardian signature:		Date:	

2023 ONA BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE APPLICATION

Your responses in this application to the various questions below will inform the selection committee about your experiences, perspectives, community involvement, accomplishments, and goals.

FOR ALL APPLICATIONS: Personal Narrative

What's Your Story?

We invite you to share your story! Please respond to each of the statements below in the space provided or in a separate document. Your submission must be between 400 - 500 words **or** in a 2-3 minute video.

1. Introduce yourself, where you are from, and what your education & life goals are.
2. What makes you, you? What is it about you that will contribute to your success in the future?
3. What makes you light up inside?
4. Tell us about your community, nation, or family involvement – how do you show up for your relatives?
5. What about being syilx gives you strength? How do you think this will help you in your educational journey?

What's Your Story?



POST-SECONDARY APPLICANTS ONLY:

How will you share your gifts?

Gaining an education provides you the opportunity to make changes not only for your life but for your community and Nation! Please respond to the statements below in the space provided or in a separate document. Your submission must be between 300-500 words **or** in a 2 minute video.

1. How and why did you choose your field of study?
2. Tell us how you see your education preparing you to share your gifts with your family, community, and Nation?

How will you share your gifts?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to write their response to the question above.