



Northern Ontario
School of Medicine

March 8, 2009

In regards to: Union Gas Aboriginal Bursary

Mr. John Bonin
Union Gas Limited
828 Falconbridge Rd
Sudbury, ON P3A 4S3

Dear Mr. Bonin:

I am the recipient of the Union Gas Aboriginal Bursary and I am writing to thank your organization for selecting me to be the recipient of this bursary.

I am from Moose Factory, Ontario and have lived there for most of my life. Moose Factory is an island at the tip of James Bay with a population of approximately 3500 of which 85% are aboriginal.

Prior to coming to becoming a student at NOSM I was employed at the Weeneebayko General Hospital in Moose Factory as a Primary Care Nurse Practitioner. It was while practicing in this role that I often wished that I could do more for my patients but was often limited because of my scope of practice. I also felt that being from a small aboriginal community the patients often lacked the continuity of care that they needed because physicians who came to Moose Factory rarely stayed for long periods. It was then that I decided that I would apply to medical school and become a physician so that I can return to my home community to practice therefore fulfilling not only my needs for expanded practice but also the needs of some of the patients in my community. I also hope that it will encourage more aboriginal youth to seek careers in the health profession.

Attending medical school is demanding both mentally and financially and because of your bursary and others like yours it helps to ease the financial burden and relieves some of the stress, for this I wish to extend my deepest appreciation. It is my hope that when I have completed my studies that I too will be in a position to assist an aboriginal student who has a dream of becoming a physician.

Respectfully,

Elaine Innes
MD Candidate 2012
Northern Ontario School of Medicine

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