

ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY DOWNTOWN LITERACY AWARDS

SCHOOL OF FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING AWARDS CEREMONY
NOVEMBER 22, 2018



BOW VALLEY
COLLEGE

QUEST FOR BEST

This is a year of celebrating your generosity to Bow Valley College's Quest for Best fundraising campaign. We are incredibly grateful to you, Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown, as part of our community who have taken us over the finish line in our campaign to raise \$20M for learners, programs and facilities.

We are also celebrating a new direction for Bow Valley College that incorporates a refreshed vision, mission, and values.

Simply put, our vision is that we open doors and open minds by creating opportunities for learners, employees, and employers, and by shaping the future of college education. Our mission that underlies all of our actions is to include all learners, challenge our thinking, remove barriers, provide opportunity and make all learning count. The values that we have chosen make us who we are: we respect inclusion, creativity, teamwork, and resilience.

This is how Bow Valley College is moving forward to embrace the future and create meaningful opportunities for our learners.

WE THANK ALL OF YOU, OUR DONORS, FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT.

OVERVIEW

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF BOW VALLEY COLLEGE LEARNERS

Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown, you are Very Important People at Bow Valley College. Through your literacy awards, you help learners overcome barriers to learning, and you transform lives. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Scholarships and bursaries play a crucial role in our learners' lives, often making the defining difference for a successful program completion. Your learner awards make a difference in the lives of many.

We celebrate our learners at the School of Foundational Learning Awards Ceremonies twice a year. We are so very pleased that Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown is available to present your awards to deserving recipients.

We thank you Andrea Serink and Barbara Lutz for presenting the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown Literacy Awards at our November 22, 2018, ceremony.

"All things flow from literacy attainment. Literacy is essential to having the ability to get a job and to pursue academic work." - Keith Seel, Dean of the School of Foundational Learning

THANKS TO YOU FROM OUR LEARNERS

We certainly value your support of Bow Valley College, its learners and its programs. The learners you have supported are also thankful for your contribution to their education and life journey. We have compiled thank you letters from the learners you support, so you can read about the impact you make on their lives.

ABOUT OUR LEARNERS

- ▶ Total enrolment: 15,091
- ▶ Graduation rate: 75.4% (compared to Alberta average: 66%)
- ▶ Percentage of graduates who find employment within their field: 90.8% (consistently over 90% during past 10 years)
- ▶ Percentage of satisfied learners: 91%
- ▶ Percentage of learners who are women: 78%
- ▶ Average age of learners: 28 (27 for men; 29 for women)
- ▶ Number of countries that learners come from: 136
- ▶ Languages spoken by learners: 150
- ▶ Number of Indigenous learners: 495
- ▶ Number of international learners: 1,088
- ▶ Learner population whose origins are outside of Canada: 44.3%
- ▶ Number of online learners: 2,924

THANK YOU

AMINA KORSHA

Two years ago, Amina Korsha enrolled to study at Bow Valley College believing her only goal was to finish LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada). The Syrian-born learner soon realized she needed to upgrade her studies in order to attend a Canadian post-secondary institution. She expresses her gratitude for your support.

"I am writing this letter to convey my sincere thanks for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honour to be chosen this year to receive the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary award.

I am currently doing high school upgrading at Bow Valley College, as I am planning to do software engineering at University of Calgary after receiving my high school diploma.

I am originally from Syria. I came as a refugee with three of my siblings, and I have been in Calgary, Canada for two and half years. My parents and one of my brothers arrived in June 2018. During my spare time, I enjoy browsing internet websites. I enjoy the field of study that require me as a student to be productive, creative, and above all of that to be able to model or stimulate both nature and human's actions and reactions. In my opinion, the opportunity for software engineers on the economic scale is peaking which is drawing me

"Thank you again for choosing me to receive this award. It means a lot to me; it will give me the motivation to do better and work harder to achieve my goals and become a productive member in the society."



Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown representative, Barbara Lutz (left), Amina Korsha (centre), and Keith Seel, Dean of School of Foundational Learning (right).

THANK YOU

JEANNE AWONA MENOUNGA

Jeanne came to Canada as a refugee from Camroon in Central Africa. In 2016 she started her ESL learning and she is now studying upgrading in the School of Foundational Learning. She volunteers with Linkages, BVC Cares, and Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta and for the Francophone Community Association. She loves visiting interesting places in Alberta, learning about their history and their people. Jeanne is very grateful for this honour.

"It is with a lot of gratitude that I thank you for this bursary. It is such an honour to receive this bursary and I shall make my best effort through hard work, devotion and perseverance to maintain the trust put in me.

My goal is to become a nurse. To be able to fulfil this goal, I started my English learning in ESL program at Bow Valley College in January 2016 as a full-time student and now, I am in School of Foundation Learning at Bow Valley College which I started in January 2018 as full-time student on campus, and I'm very happy with the progress I have made so far. As a student, I receive a solid education in the most peaceful environment surrounded with the most patient and devoted instructors every day. I'm so grateful for this opportunity that has been given to me, to not only improve my education but to look up to a career in the future. Thanks to what I learn every day from Bow Valley College."

"I once more thank you for this opportunity given to me, it is not only making a difference in my life but also helps me to be more confident about the choice I made to come back to school. I hope that you continue to make a difference in many people's lives to achieve their goals by these wonderful gestures."



THANK YOU

NAHOM HAGOS

Nahom Hagos is upgrading in the School of Foundational Learning as a bright step to his future career: Engineering or Medical Tech. Nahom was born in Eritrea and emigrated to Canada, two years ago. Nahom will use this bursary to support his studies."

"First of all I would like to thank you for establishing a scholarship at the Bow Valley College. Secondly I am happy and it is an honour for me to be this year's recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary.

Now I am doing my upgrading. In the future I would like to take an Engineering courses or to be medical assistant.

I have been studying in Bow Valley College for two semesters and I like to finish my upgrading and to be an Engineer. About me I am from Eritrea I come to Canada, Calgary last year. I love Calgary it is very nice city to live and to work. I am studying and working at the same time, I live alone my family is back home. My family is depending on me to help them. That is why I am very grateful for everything Bow Valley College is doing for me."

"It means a lot to me that you chose me to have this money thanks so much for every thing. And I hope you continue what you are doing for other students thanks so much again."



THANK YOU

WILLIAM FINLAYSON

William has been at Bow Valley College for four years. He is motivated to become a journeyman in the automotive industry and that is why he is enrolled in the upgrading program. This award makes him realize that his hard work is being noticed and it will pay off at the end.



DONALD DOWELL

Donald is dedicated to his studies encouraged by his instructors. He hopes to gain the skills necessary to find a job and move on to the next step of his life. He is elated to have won this bursary and his plan is to use it to further his education.



CHAN DENG AROU NGOR

"Thank you for this award."

I am studying Upgrading at Bow Valley College. I am in Reading and Writing 5, and Basic Math 2. My wife just had a baby one week ago, so this will ease a lot of pressure. I appreciate your kindness."

SUSMITA BISHWAKARMA

Three years ago, Susmita enrolled in Bow Valley College. She is from Nepal and after she finishes with her upgrading courses, she will continue studying Business Administration. She thanks the Rotary Club because this bursary will help finance her studies.

THANK YOU

FITHI KIDANE

Born in Eritrea, Fithi came to Bow Valley College to upgrade his studies to Canadian standards. His goal is to complete his upgrading to be able to start his career studies in Information Technology. This bursary encourages him to work hard and focus on his goals.

"First of all I would like to thank for the establishing a scholarship in Bow Valley College and also I am happy as an honour to be this year's recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary.

My current activity is Upgrading, but for the future I would like to join in an Engineering course.

I have been study in Bow Valley College for two terms, and I want to finish my upgrading as soon as possible because to join high education level. I was born and raised in Eritrea, East Africa, and I came to this country last year 2017 its been one year. I live alone in Calgary, Alberta."

"I want to thank you again on what you have done for me, I hope I will do work more than this in this term. "



THANK YOU

MLETETSEGA SBHATU

Mlete comes from Eritrea and she has been in BVC for the last two years. She wants to become a pharmacist after she finishes her upgrading courses with SFL, and start working in this area. She feels that this award encourages to continue improving her skills. She is a hardworking student and also love to help her peers.

"First, I would like to say thank you so much for giving me this award on November 22. My name is Mletetsega, but you can call me Mlete.

I came from Eritrea and I have been 2 years studying in Bow Valley College. I didn't go to any school in Calgary before Bow Valley College because people told me Bow Valley College is the best college. My plans are to take a pharmacist course after I finish upgrading and start work by my career."

"Receiving this award means to keep going what I am doing and it will help me to improve my skills. I am a hardworking and a quiet student, and I really like to help people if I can. Thank you again I am so excited to get this opportunity."



THANK YOU

OPULA-BELLY AWUYI

Opula came to Calgary via Quebec. She has been living in Calgary for the last 10 years and this is her second term in the School of Foundational Learning. She is elated to receive this bursary that will help her finish her upgrading. Her goal is to enroll in the disabilities studies program.

"Thank you for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honor to be this year's recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary.

Currently, I am in upgrading program in self-placed and I really like it. I do have three courses which are Writing 5, Reading 5 and Basic Computer. As I am in self-placed, I have the privilege to study faster and start career program earlier. I would like to pursue my studies in disability studies at Bow Valley College and continue at University of Calgary to complete my degree in rehabilitation and disability studies.

I am originally from Republic Democratic of Congo in the center of Africa. I am the first born of four children and also I have four beautiful children. The funny thing is that my mother and I both have two boys and two girls. I have chosen to take my courses at Bow Valley College because I have great testimonies about the college since I have moved to Calgary. In addition, Bow Valley College has my dream career program, so I don't regret the choice that I made."

"Thank you for honoring me to be the recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary."



THANK YOU

BEREKET GAIM

"Thank you for those who work hard to be a successful student teachers and tutors. I am going to appreciate for all they help me to know that I don't know. I am very happy to see like this result. After I finish my class, I have a plan to study about 2 hours everyday.

"Thank you again for those they help me God bless you and I wish all the best for you."

Sometimes I go to library and I can study about 5 hours with my classmates. I am going to work hard in this program to be a good student and to persist. I am from Eritrea. I came to Canada in June 2016. I am going to know English language and take some courses as well. I like to play sport and I go to the gym at my spare time. My family is in Eritrea. I am living by myself. I support my family as well. I am choosing this academic because I don't want to translate me someone who know English and for better job."



THANK YOU

ANGELO BENJAMIN MALEK

Angelo has been a student in Bow Valley College for four years. He comes from South Sudan. He is upgrading in order to become a nurse. Angelo feels honoured to receive this award today.

"I appreciate your giving this award to me and it is my pleasure to accept this award."

"I would like to say thank you to Veronica and the staff at Bow Valley College for nominating me. Thank you to the Rotary Club for establishing a scholarship at Bow Valley College. It is an honour to be this year's recipient of the Rotary Club Literacy Bursary.

I am from South Sudan. I moved to Canada because of war in my country. My family is still in Africa living in different countries. I have been a learner at Bow Valley College for four years. I am in the upgrading program now. I am planning to become a nurse in my future. I wanted to come to Bow Valley College so I could learn English, complete my upgrading and high school courses then go to a nursing program.

The scholarship is important to me because I am not able to work right now. Sometimes I don't have enough money so the Rotary Bursary will help me with buying food or things I need.

I am learning English at Bow Valley College and, at the same time, I am learning American Sign Language (ASL). ASL is different than the sign language I learned in Kenya. I became deaf in 1994."



ONE MORE THING

WE'RE PROUD TO TELL YOU ABOUT RECENT ACCOLADES BOW VALLEY COLLEGE RECEIVED

Bow Valley College and Craig Elias, our entrepreneur in residence, won gold in the entrepreneurship category at the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) Awards of Excellence. This global awards ceremony took place October 8-10, 2018, in Melbourne, Australia, at WFCP's annual World Congress conference.

The awards seek to distinguish WFCP member institutions, whose exceptional initiatives strengthen applied learning and research outcomes. Bow Valley College and Elias were recognized for demonstrating excellence in integrating community entrepreneurship into academic curriculum and/or implemented innovative entrepreneurial activities.

AND

Bow Valley College was the only Canadian post-secondary institution to take home an award by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education during its annual conference this fall in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Bow Valley College was recognized for its outstanding achievements in sustainability, due to its innovative recycling program and high compliance rate. Traditional recycling and composting programs, and special programs for fabric, plastic gloves, batteries, pens, IV bags, cooking oil, and electronics recycling enabled the college to increase its recycling rate from 19 to 76 per cent in only four years.

Finalists were judged on overall impact, innovation, stakeholder involvement, clarity and other criteria specific to each category. Other winning colleges and universities are from such countries as Cameroon, Israel, Sweden, France and Britain. Sustainability Coordinator Amy Spark, who helped launch the initiative, received the award on behalf of Bow Valley College and was a guest presenter at the conference.

FROM ALL OF US HERE AT BOW VALLEY COLLEGE

THANK YOU SO MUCH, ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY DOWNTOWN

FOR YOUR ONGOING COMMITMENT TO OUR LEARNERS, AND YOUR AWESOME GENEROSITY.

Prepared:

December 6, 2018

Prepared for:

Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown

Presented by:

Ron Burke, Fund Development Director

403-410-3496

reburke@bowvalleycollege.ca

