

ST. JAMES SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

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## 2016 Annual Report



# President's Report 2016

Throughout the 2015-2016 school year, the St. James Scholarship Foundation placed a strong emphasis on raising awareness of the foundation and strengthening our connections with the community.

The President of the St. James Scholarship Foundation spread the word of our internal campaign by completing visits at all of the middle and senior years schools in St. James-Assiniboia School Division. Staff members at each school received a St. James Scholarship Foundation brochure, as well as a pledge card. New staff members in the Division were introduced to the foundation's history, the details of our internal campaign and the role the foundation plays in helping support students in their next chapter upon graduating high school.

The current status of the foundation was presented to the St. James-Assiniboia School Division Board of Trustees at a regular school board meeting held on August 30, 2016. The President had the opportunity to share the 2015 annual report at this time, which led to a discussion regarding both the process and progress of the internal campaign within our schools.

In 2016, donations to support memorial awards played a huge role in contributing to the success of our fundraising campaign. Community donations to help establish the Susan Bohonos Memorial Award were deposited in our locally-held endowment fund. While our agency fund at the Winnipeg Foundation was used to establish the Ms. Willows Annual Book Award at Crestview School. Both of these new memorial awards are detailed later in the annual report in our 2016 Donor Profiles.

In an effort to grow our foundation, we sought both internal and external insight to help develop our board in three main areas. First, privacy legislation was reviewed and in consequence, we established new authorization forms regarding the release of donor information. Secondly, we heard a fundraising presentation from Janet Walker, CEO Canada's History Society, and also the holder of a professional fundraising designation. Thirdly, the President and Secretary Treasurer attended the Winnipeg Foundation Annual Agency Fund Meeting to learn about the current operations of our partner and aids to fundraising.

During the past year, we experienced a few changes in our Board of Director's membership. Cheryl Reid retired but has offered to continue to support the foundation as needed in a financial advisory capacity. Now in her place, we welcome Stefan Jonasson, Editor of Logberg Heimskringla. As well, Michele Morrissette, Executive Secretary, retired from the school board office staff. She provided secretarial support to our board for many years on a volunteer basis and her contribution is very much appreciated. Elizabeth Rothery has now assumed this position.

Our board appreciates the ongoing administrative support given to us by the St. James-Assiniboia School Division, all without cost to the endowment. Staff members Nora Wood, Accounting Manager, Elizabeth Rothery, Executive Secretary, and Jennifer Cameron, Information Officer, deserve our thanks and appreciation for the direct support they provide to our board.

We look forward to continuing to serve our community as we work to recognize the many dedicated, capable young people attending our community schools. We welcome community contributions to the endowment to support deserving students in their future endeavours.

*Bruce G. Alexander, President, St. James Scholarship Foundation*



## Donor Profile

# Susan Bohonos Memorial Award

A group of Silver Heights alumni join forces to honour the life and character of a well-admired former classmate, Susan Bohonos.

Susan Bohonos attended Silver Heights Collegiate and graduated in the class of '86. On April 20, 2015, she passed away from pancreatic cancer after battling the disease for three years. While she will always be remembered by her two boys, husband and immediate family, her spirit also lives on in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division with the Susan Bohonos Memorial Fund.

Elaine Stobbe and Tish Jonsson went to high school with Susan and graduated in her class. Although they were not extremely close with Susan during those years, her attitude towards life left an impression on both of them. "She was one of those people who was always smiling, always happy and always giving back," said Tish. "We just thought we wanted to do something to acknowledge that."

Elaine mentioned how on Facebook, she could see Susan had been through quite the struggle, especially with two young boys to care for but was amazed by how strong, positive and upbeat she remained the entire time.

"We just thought this (the memorial fund), would be a good way of giving back to someone with similar qualities as Susan — good-spirited, kind and giving to the community," said Elaine.

Shortly after her passing, these two former classmates began a fundraising campaign to create a scholarship in her name.

Both Elaine and Tish helped organize the 50th Anniversary of Silver Heights Collegiate in 2007, which took place just before the school closed and merged with Sturgeon Creek Collegiate. Elaine worked on tracking down the alumni contact information for the event, which on the day of saw a turnout of more than 1,000 former staff and students. In 2015, Elaine still had access to this contact information and knew many of her former classmates and peers still resided in the St. James area. After reaching out to Susan's family, as well as St. James Scholarship Foundation President, Bruce Alexander, Elaine and Tish teamed up with former classmate and close friend of Susan's, Sandrina Esposito, to plan a local fundraising event.

On July 12, 2015, more than 100 Silver Heights Alumni, family, friends and neighbours headed down to Woodhaven Community Club to support the Susan Bohonos Memorial Fund. The event included a pasta dinner (prepared by Sandrina's family), drinks, desserts and a silent auction. Many sizeable donations from the community helped make this event possible and in turn, a great success. The fundraising event was also well supported by former classmates near and far who, although unable to attend, still provided generous gifts. This heartfelt and memorable evening laid the foundation for funding the award.

After being voted on and passed by the Board of Trustees at the St. James-Assiniboia School Board meeting on April 12, 2016, the Susan Bohonos Memorial Award came to life as a 12-year scholarship in the amount \$500 to be presented annually at the College Sturgeon Heights Collegiate graduation ceremony. The first presentation of the Susan Bohonos Memorial Award marked the 30th anniversary of the Silver Heights class of '86 as it was awarded on June 29, 2016 to College Sturgeon Heights Collegiate graduate, Ronald Gamblin. The criteria for the award is centred on Susan's unforgettable qualities and incredible outlook on life recognizing a candidate each year who is kind, generous, determined, positive, involved in the community, has potential for leadership, the ability to overcome challenges and maintains a minimum of 65% average. Congratulations to Ronald Gamblin on receiving the award, and to everyone in the community who helped establish the Susan Bohonos Memorial Award. May her legacy live on in the students of St. James-Assiniboia School Division.



From the left: Elaine Stobbe and Tish Jonsson



## Recipient Profile

# Mark Hearson

*Westwood Collegiate graduate Mark Hearson shares his educational journey from Winnipeg to Oxford and back. With a new set of goals on the horizon, Mark is happy to be home and looking forward to the next chapter.*

**W**estwood Collegiate student Mark Hearson had ambitious dreams upon graduating high school. While he knew which field he desired to pursue and what he aimed to accomplish within it, he couldn't have predicted the many extraordinary educational opportunities yet to come. Mark is thankful for the immense support he received from his family, peers and professors, as well as the educational organizations who helped him get to where he is today.

Mark grew up in St. James-Assiniboia School Division. He attended Sansome School, Lincoln Middle School and Westwood Collegiate, where he graduated in 2007. At his graduation, he received a number of exceptional recognitions including highest average, outstanding academic achievement in various subject areas, the Westwood Arts Council Award, the St. James Scholarship Foundation Award of Excellence and the Governor General's Award.

"I worked very hard in high school," said Mark. "I think back and sometimes wonder how I managed my time and how I did the balance of tasks and the intensity of tasks that I did. I felt very lucky to get a scholarship, and to me, they connected with the hard work I put in."

Mark also received the Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship from the University of Manitoba in the amount of \$5,000.

"These scholarships helped me immerse myself in my studies from the very beginning of my time at the University of Manitoba, without having to work part time during the school year," said Mark.

Mark invested the same amount of time, if not more, being involved in student groups in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Manitoba and found them to be extremely beneficial.

"They helped me immediately become connected with professors and connected in the industry because we were planning events that involved companies that would eventually go on to hire students graduating from civil engineering," explained Mark. "Being involved in technical societies also offered an opportunity to gain a deeper knowledge on specific subjects of interest."

In his second year, Mark specialized his studies and entered the Department of Civil Engineering. By the time summer came, he had landed a well-aligned job opportunity in an area he was truly passionate about — transport engineering and transport planning.

Fast forward to his fifth and final year of engineering,

Mark interviewed for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, of which eleven are presented annually to Canadian students for studies at the University of Oxford. According to the Rhodes Trust website, "the Rhodes Scholarships support students who demonstrate a strong propensity to emerge as 'leaders for the world's future'."

"I believe the scholarships I received in high school were hugely beneficial in future applications and being successful in those applications," expressed Mark.

Many scholarship applications include a "What scholarships have you previously received?" section and often times that is the start of the application.

A successful candidate, Mark received the Rhodes Scholarship in November, 2011. This scholarship opened up a world of opportunity for Mark as it covered tuition fees for two years of study at Oxford, a personal stipend and airfare at the start and completion of the scholarship. In the fall of 2012, Mark began his first year at Oxford in the Masters of Science in Nature, Society and Environmental Governance program.

"I had found that within the School of Geography, they studied transport from a social science perspective focusing on transport economics and mobility and so I selected my first year program based on that," said Mark.

The following year, he completed his Masters of Business Administration at the Saïd Business School at Oxford and upon graduating, found his way back home to Winnipeg.

"I was lucky upon leaving to find a job in Winnipeg," said Mark. "Whether it was coincidence or just serendipity, I now work at a company called Fireseeds North Infrastructure, which was founded by someone I met in my undergrad studies at the University of Manitoba."

He explained how the company works in the areas of asset management, road safety and transport planning to assist transportation departments in municipalities, cities and provinces all across Canada. The company also works outside of Canada, particularly in Latin America and Middle East North Africa.

Today, Mark is happy to be on the management team at Fireseeds North Infrastructure and to be working as a transport infrastructure specialist. He is grateful for all the academic opportunities that have led him here, and is committed to helping other students achieve their dreams as well through his annual contributions to the Rhodes Trust and various University of Manitoba fundraising campaigns.



## Donor Profile

# Ms. Willows Book Award

Ms. Willows believed in every child and dedicated much of her time to helping all students reach their full potential. While our community lost a beloved teacher, wife, friend and mentor to cancer on April 9, 2016, Ms. Willows' kind heart and vision will continue to flourish in St. James-Assiniboia School Division.

Nicole Willows, born in 1986, grew up attending schools in St. James-Assiniboia. She pursued many passions throughout her life, such as music, soccer and travelling, but perhaps her greatest passion of all, upon dreaming of the occupation since she was six years old, was teaching.

Ms. Willows started her career with St. James-Assiniboia School Division as a substitute teacher in 2009 and soon-after, gained a full-time teaching position at Crestview School. She built a strong foundation and a family at Crestview made up of staff, students and their families. When Ms. Willows found out she had colon cancer in the fall of 2013, she did everything she could to remain in her classroom with her students as they brought her so much joy and happiness. After battling the disease for over two years, Ms. Willows passed away the week following spring break in April of 2016. During this extremely difficult time, her husband, Matthew Creighton, found a unique and meaningful way to honour her life and continue her efforts towards helping students achieve their educational goals.

"I was sitting around my sister's place, going through the motions of what happened and how giving Nicole was, I was trying to think of something I could do to take away from all of the negative stuff that was going on," said Matthew, referring to one week after her passing. "I thought of her students and what I could do for them because stuff was pouring in from them and I was trying to, not only get myself healed, but do what I could for other people."

Matthew started a GoFundMe page called *Ms. Willows Books for Deserving Students* approximately a week after she passed away with the hope of raising enough funds to present each student at Crestview School with a book during "I love to Read" month in February each year. While Ms. Willows enjoyed teaching all subject areas at the Grade 2/3 level, she particularly loved literature and always prioritized reading as an important part of her classroom structure.

"She loved it all but reading was definitely one of her favourites," said Matthew.

Ms. Willows was also involved in the reading recovery program in St. James-Assiniboia School Division. Matthew

settled on the idea of initiating a book award after recalling a time Ms. Willows searched to find a creative solution to help one of her students purchase a couple books that they wanted to read over the summer but could not afford. She thought it was extremely important for all of her students to have access to reading material in which they were interested in, especially during summer break, to maintain and strengthen their reading skills.

The initial goal of the online campaign was to raise \$15,000. Within 48 hours, a flood of generous donations from friends, family and community members surpassed this goal and the fund continued to grow rapidly.

"A lot of people were emailing me, you know friends and family, saying how much it is helping them focusing on such a good thing coming out of such a tough time," explained Matthew.

Approximately a week after the GoFundMe campaign launched, Matthew received a text message from a family friend about a lemonade stand nearby. One of Ms. Willows students was selling cookies and lemonade and created a poster to let her patrons know their contributions would be going towards a GoFundMe page in support of her favourite teacher who passed away from cancer. Matthew stopped by the lemonade stand to meet the young girl and as he connected with her family, learned of how his wife taught all three children in their family.

"It was the little things like that that were pretty moving and it was a pretty cool thing," said Matthew.

As the campaign quieted down, Matthew connected with Crestview School Principal, Mrs. Moffatt. Mrs. Moffatt helped make the connection between the GoFundMe campaign and the St. James Scholarship Foundation to help ensure the fund wouldn't deplete itself and could be used in perpetuity. After paying a small fee to use the online platform, a donation of \$28,726 was made to the St. James Scholarship Foundation to establish the Ms. Willows Book Award.

In June, 2017, all of the students at Crestview School will be receiving the Ms. Willows Book Award for the first time. Mrs. Moffatt says each student chose a book they would like to receive from more than 50 titles based on their interest and reading level.

While Matthew organized the campaign during such a pivotal period, he attributes it all to his incredible wife.

"This is exactly what Nicole would want and what Nicole would do," said Matthew. "I would give her all the credit."

# St. James Scholarship Endowment Fund

Funds invested within the St. James Scholarship Endowment Fund are held separately with the Winnipeg Foundation. All gifts made to this fund are pooled and permanently invested to provide a stable, annual revenue stream and help support the long-term financial strategy of the St. James Scholarship Foundation.

## Interim Fund Report

### St. James Scholarship Foundation Funds - Combined

October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Fund Established -No Date

Fund # STJAME\_m



	Opening Balance Oct 1	YTD Change	Closing Balance
Market Value	92,585.18		
Disbursements Payable	5,884.98		
Fund Balance	98,470.16		
<b>Activity - Current Fiscal Year</b>			
Contributions Received		12,020.00	
Other		0.00	
Investment Income (Loss)		1,811.85	
Less Disbursements Paid		0.00	
Less Administration Fees		-462.93	
Less Investment Fees		-81.02	
Fund Balance			111,758.06
Less Disbursements Payable			9,734.98
<b>December 31, 2016 Market Value</b>			<b>\$102,023.08</b>
<b>Contribution Summary</b>			
Opening Balance	80,913.42		
Capitalized Income		0.00	
Current Contributions		11,810.00	
Matching Grants/ Transfers		210.00	
Other		0.00	
<b>Total Contributions</b>			<b>\$92,933.42</b>
<b>Disbursement Summary</b>			
Opening Balance Payable	5,884.98		
Spending Policy Allocation		3,850.00	
Other		0.00	
Disbursements Paid		0.00	
Less Capitalized Income		-0.00	
<b>Disbursements Payable</b>			<b>\$9,734.98</b>

For more information about your fund please contact  
Denise Campbell, Fund Administration Specialist  
dcampbell@wpgfdn.org or 204-944-9474

#### The Winnipeg Foundation

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**St. James-Assiniboia Scholarship Foundation**  
**Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2016 - Unaudited**

		2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets	Cash & Short-Term Investments	158,867.00	\$ 144,052.00
	Accounts Receivable	9,735.00	10,285.00
		<u>168,602.00</u>	<u>154,337.00</u>
Non-Current Assets	GIC Investments	34,913.00	16,740.00
	Patronage Equity	451.00	369.00
		<u>35,364.00</u>	<u>17,109.00</u>
		<u>\$ 203,966.00</u>	<u>\$ 171,446.00</u>
<hr/>			
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
	Accounts Payable	\$ 19,245.00	\$ 9,757.00
		<u>19,245.00</u>	<u>9,757.00</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
	Restricted Fund	132,567.00	112,399.00
	Unrestricted Fund	52,154.00	49,290.00
		<u>184,721.00</u>	<u>161,689.00</u>
		<u>\$ 203,966.00</u>	<u>\$ 171,446.00</u>

**St. James-Assiniboia Scholarship Foundation**  
**Statement of Revenues & Expenses**  
**For the Period Ending December 31, 2016**

		Restricted Funds 2016	Unrestricted Funds 2016	Total 2016	Total 2015
<b>Revenues</b>					
	Donations	\$ 39,337.00	\$ 1,355.00	\$ 40,692.00	\$ 7,427.00
	Interest	-	2,135.00	\$ 2,135.00	2,618.00
	WF Spending Grant	1,694.00	2,156.00	\$ 3,850.00	3,460.00
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>41,031.00</u>	<u>5,646.00</u>	<u>46,677.00</u>	<u>13,505.00</u>
<b>Expenses</b>					
	Awards	11,810.00	-	11,810.00	10,270.00
	Administrative Expenses	-	25.00	25.00	910.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>11,810.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,835.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,180.00</u>
	<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>\$ 29,221.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,621.00</u>	<u>\$ 34,842.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,325.00</u>
	<b>Net Assets, Beginning</b>	<u>\$ 112,399.00</u>	<u>\$ 49,290.00</u>	<u>\$ 161,689.00</u>	<u>\$ 159,364.00</u>
	Transfers to WF Endowment Fund	9,053.00	2,757.00	11,810.00	-
	<b>Net Assets, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 132,567.00</u>	<u>\$ 52,154.00</u>	<u>\$ 184,721.00</u>	<u>\$ 161,689.00</u>

## 2016 St. James Scholarship Foundation Award Recipients

ST. JAMES COLLEGIATE	AMOUNT	RECIPIENT
Deer Lodge Centre	\$100	Ashley Almdal
St. James Collegiate Alumni Award	\$100	Vanessa McKay
Jan Ernest Carlson Scholarship	\$400	Patricia Panganiban
Constance & George Waters Memorial Award	\$200	Sharlene Sawal
Eric Jonasson	\$500	Hillary Cutbert
Tom Dercola Humanities Award	\$100	Amalie Herath
Penny Mead Memorial Scholarship	\$100	Kieran Wallace
Captain Gordon Oliver Alexander Memorial	\$250	Kentyn Prybylski
Edith & Thomas Cox Memorial Award	\$800	Carly Burton
Dr. D. Young Humanitarian Award	\$60	Ayoub Moustarzak
Harry Pauls English Award of Excellence	\$125	Bea Requerme
McLeod Family Community Award	\$100	Emily Drummond-Truttman
Robert Orr Award (\$75)	\$75.00	Bostyn Evans (\$37.5)
		Kirstin Caguioa (\$37.5)
Emergent Biosolutions Science Award	\$400.00	Vanessa McKay

COLLÉGE STURGEON HEIGHTS COLLEGIATE	AMOUNT	RECIPIENT
Deer Lodge Centre	\$100	Jamie Cardona
Silver Heights Alumni Class of 60	\$500	Austin Opiola
Constance & George Waters Memorial Award	\$200	Kayla Muys
Joyce Aiken Award	\$100	Ciarra O'Reggio
Jim Huggard Award	\$500	Olivia Osborne
Wpg Rock and Mineral Jewelry Award	\$100	Hui Min Wu
Silver Oak Hockey Tournament Scholarship	\$200	Meghan Hodgins
Penny Mead Memorial Scholarship	\$100	Ashleigh Sadler
Susan Bohonos Memorial Award	\$500	Ronald Gamblin
Emergent Biosolutions Science Award	\$400	Kohavit Kleitman

WESTWOOD COLLEGIATE	AMOUNT	RECIPIENT
Deer Lodge Centre	\$100	Zac Brown
Constance & George Waters Memorial Award	\$200	Sarah Bijl
Jill Mino Memorial	\$250	Michael Carter
Penny Mead Memorial Scholarship	\$100	Piper McKinnon
Shannon Ellis Scholarship	\$150	Jesse Thibert
Addy Ryingach Memorial	\$400	Rachel Shingleton
Emergent Biosolutions Science Award	\$400	Giyeon Jang



## 2016 St. James Scholarship Foundation Award Recipients

<b>JOHN TAYLOR COLLEGIATE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Deer Lodge Centre	\$100	Brittney Wade
Constance & George Waters Memorial Award	\$200	Krista Hagglund
Jim & Lillian Huggard Award	\$500	Joshua Gandier
Penny Mead Memorial Scholarship	\$100	Silas Allen
Charlotte Lee Memorial Award	\$200	Chance Punton
Madison Claven-Enns Memorial Award	\$100	Taylor Lennon
Emergent Biosolutions Science Award	\$400	Ashley Grass
JT 50th Anniversary Award	\$1,500	Shaye Kemball

<b>BUCHANAN SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Shirley Agnes Tyrrell Award	\$500.00	Mirella Embury-Kiss

<b>LINWOOD SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Julie Larson Memorial	\$16.67	Jerine Mabanag
	\$16.67	Ainslie McLellan Shearer
	\$16.66	Charlea Burkett

<b>STEVENSON-BRITANNIA SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Julie Larson Memorial	\$25	Nicole Mercado
	\$25	Maye Adanza
	\$25	Krista Ness

<b>BRUCE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Julie Larson Memorial	\$50.00	Kurt Yap

<b>ROTATED ANNUALLY - BRUCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Neil Krebs	\$100.00	Kiara Kerwin

<b>LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
James McLeod Memorial Award	\$100.00	Ryan Desender

# A Word of Thanks to Our Donors

This year's fundraising efforts raised a total of \$32,961 in contributions from individuals, members, community groups, local partners and organizations. The St. James Scholarship Foundation would like to acknowledge and say thank you to all of our donors for their generosity. A special thanks to the many St. James-Assiniboia School Division employees and trustees who contributed to this year's internal campaign. We appreciate your support.

## *Gifts under \$100*

Lauree Kopetsky  
Lorraine Mather  
John Mulligan  
Lorelei Steffler  
Ashley Van Aggelen  
Peter Woods

## *Gifts of \$100 or more*

Bruce Alexander  
Bruce Chegus  
S.H.C.I. 60's Grads  
Susan Glass  
Stacy and Cameron Kent  
Sandy Lethbridge  
Cheryl Smukowich  
Karen Strobel

Lastly, thank you to The Winnipeg Foundation.

