

# DEHCHO FIRST NATION

## Memorial Awards & Scholarships

### Policy

Information & Application Form



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## **PREAMBLE**

Dehcho First Nation Memorial Awards & Scholarships were established in 1995 by the Dehcho First Nation Leadership. It was the vision then, and continues today, that Dehcho Dene descendants confidently pursue post-secondary education. The Dehcho First Nation's goal is for our Dehcho descendants to take advantage of post-secondary education and achieve equitable representation in post-secondary institutions.

These Memorial Awards and Scholarships provides support for advancement of Dehcho Dene. The goals for Dehcho descendants are self-reliance, self-determination and well-being. This goal is achieved by supporting the education and training of our Dehcho descendants in post-secondary education. It is the hope these individuals will come home to the Dehcho to help build capacity and lead our First Nation into a healthy future.

Dehcho First Nation Leadership believes education should enable our members to confidently live and work in both Dene and western worlds, blending the traditional values of our people with the modern realities of the present. Thus, the memorial awards were established to honour and remember respected Dehcho community members and Elders. Their legacy will live on through these annual memorial awards to remind us of their hard work, commitment, vision and teachings for the advancement of Dehcho Dene, culture and way of life.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Dene Zhatie embodies our culture and identity forming a central foundation that can be enhanced and strengthened through life-long learning. The Dehcho Leadership believes that the Dehcho Dene can maintain the Dene world view within a western society in order to be successful in both worlds. To this end, the Dehcho Dene require the support and encouragement that will be provided by the Dehcho Memorial Awards and Scholarships.

The Dehcho Leadership strongly supports quality education and a healthy future for all Dehcho Dene descendants.

## DEFINITIONS

**Dehcho Dene** is “ a person who is a descendant of a Dene who resided on, used or occupied any part of the Dehcho territory prior to December 31, 1922 and who identifies as a Dene or as a Metis, or a person who was adopted as a minor under the laws of any jurisdiction or under Dehcho Dene custom by a Dene who resided on, used or occupied land in the Dehcho territory prior to December 31, 1922 or is a descendent of a person so adopted”.

**Dehcho Leadership** – Acho Dene Koe/Fort Liard, Liidlii Kue First Nation/Fort Simpson, Pehdzeh Ki First Nation/Wrigley, Naha Dehe First Nation/Nahanni Butte, Sambaa K’e First Nation/Trout Lake, Tthetsekehdeli/Jean Marie River First Nation, Ka’agee Tu First Nation/Kakisa Lake, Deh Gah Got’ie Koe Dene Council/Fort Providence, Katlodeeche First Nation/ Hay River Reserve, West Point First Nation/Ts’u Ehda , the Fort Providence Metis Nation and Fort Simpson Metis Nation

**Dene Zhatie** – the Dene language and dialects of the Dehcho

## **POLICY**

To provide the guidelines and parameters for the selection of the most qualified recipients of the Dehcho Memorial Awards and Scholarships.

## PROCEDURES

1. Priority will be given to Dehcho residents.
2. The maximum number of scholarships an applicant can apply for is four depending on the availability of funds. The recommendations from the Scholarship Committee to the leadership shall include the number of scholarships each applicant has received to date. Exceptions are made on a 'case by case basis' depending on the nature of the field of study, i.e., medical doctor, lawyer, advanced studies.
3. Students must provide transcripts each term/ semester maintaining a minimum of 60% of a grade average each term/semester.
4. Students may not change their chosen field of study within the duration of the award.
5. Students who completely withdraw from their program in any year will be required to pay back the award/scholarship received that year and/or not qualify for a two year period for Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards and Scholarships.
6. Students must carry a full course load as determined by the post-secondary institution.
7. Only applicants submitting a complete application package by the advertised deadline as per the scholarship guidelines will be considered. No exceptions.
8. The DFN Scholarship Committee will set submissions date annually.
9. Dehcho First Nation Scholarship Committee recommendations are submitted to DFN Leadership.
10. Dehcho First Nation Leadership considers/approves the Scholarship Committee recommendations and approves Memorial Awards and Scholarships through a motion signed by Leadership.
11. A Public Announcement/media release will announce the Memorial Award/Scholarship recipients.
12. Dehcho First Nation will advertise DFN Scholarship intake by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. (website posting, public advertisement newspapers), Social Media and community posters.
13. Applications will be accepted by facsimile, email and regular mail to: Scholarship Committee, Dehcho First Nation.

## DEHCHO FIRST NATION MEMORIAL AWARDS

### **Phoebe Nahanni Memorial Award (\$12,000 Multi-Year)**

This prestigious award was established to honour a young Dene woman. Phoebe was born in a bush camp outside Jean Marie River in 1947. Phoebe was raised in a traditional Dene lifestyle with a strong relationship and connection to her family, land, Dene Zhatie and culture. She advocated self-determination for all First Nations people. She was also a tireless advocate to promote Crown and First Nations relationship. Phoebe was involved in the establishment of the Indian Brotherhood and was an original signatory to the Dehcho Declaration (1993).

Phoebe was the first Dene Woman from the Dehcho to acquire a Master's Degree at McGill University in geography and also earned her Bachelor of Arts (University of Waterloo) all the while raising a family and addressing Native rights and issues in Canada.

*“Every spring I watch the formation of geese honking as they gracefully fly northward – and I long to follow them. You see, I am one of the Aboriginal Dene people. Now I live in Montreal, but my roots are in the North where I was born in a bush camp many years ago. And, like the geese, I am compelled to go back every year to my homeland.” (Phoebe Nahanni: New Internationalist Issue 226-December 1991)*

**\$12,000 will be awarded annually, to be paid over a three or four year period (recipients choice) to a Dehcho Dene descendant who pursues a Master Degree or Doctorate Degree in Natural Sciences, Law and/or Political Science.**

### **Mary Cazon Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2)**

This award was established to honour Mary Cazon, a well-respected Elder of the Dehcho. Mary was born in Fort Providence in 1939 and was raised in the Dehcho Territory. She lived a very traditional life and raised her children within the values of the Dene lifestyle. Her traditional knowledge expertise was comprised of tanning animal hides, medicinal remedies, and traditional sewing. Mary was passionate about instilling traditional knowledge and values to the new generations. She provided political advice to the Dehcho Leadership and had the highest priority for land protection as she believed that the land defines you as Dene.

**\$3,000 each will be awarded annually to two Dehcho Dene post-secondary students pursuing studies in Environmental Sciences, Health & Wellness and/or Naturopathy.**



### **Mitch Landry (Corbeau) Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2)**

This award was established to honour Mitch Landry (Corbeau), a well-respected Elder of the Dehcho. Mitch was born in Fort Providence in 1930 and was raised traditionally in the Dehcho Territory. Mitch attended the Indian Residential School where he learned to speak French and English. Mitch served on various councils, boards and committees. In his political career, Mitch was very passionate about the land and the future of our youth. Mitch opened many meetings and gatherings with strong prayers. He held the highest regard for the land and respect for the Dene.

**\$3,000 each will be awarded annually to two Dehcho Dene post-secondary students pursuing studies in Environment & Resource Management, Humanities/Social Sciences, Aboriginal Languages and/or Linguistics.**

### **Albertine Rodh Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2)**

This award was established to honour Albertine Rodh, a well-respected Metis Elder of the Dehcho. Albertine was born in Fort Providence in 1931 and was raised in the Dehcho Territory. She was raised in a French speaking household and later became fluent in Dene Zhatie and English. Albertine was very active in many political organizations and aboriginal leadership in the Northwest Territories. In recognition of her achievements and contributions, she was awarded the Metis Nation's Order of the Shawl and the Wise Women Award for the Dehcho Region. She valued education and equality for everyone in order for future success and security for all.

**\$3,000 each will be awarded annually to two Dehcho Dene post-secondary students pursuing studies in Native Studies, Women/Gender Studies, Political Science and/or Education.**

## **DEHCHO FIRST NATION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Dehcho First Nation Scholarships are available to encourage Dehcho Dene to pursue post-secondary education on a full time basis.

### **Dene Traditional Knowledge**

\$1,000 awarded annually for any land based skill courses of (3-6months) duration.

### **Open / General Studies Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for related certificate, diploma or degree programs.

### **Early Childhood Education Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for Early Childhood Education Program and/or any related diploma/degree program.

### **Teacher Education Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for Teacher Education Program and/or any Education diploma or degree

### **Medical Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for medical related diploma programs and/or degrees.

### **Business Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for business for any diploma programs and/or degrees.

### **Engineering / Computer Science Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for engineering/computer science related certificate, diploma and/or degrees.

### **Fine Arts / Performing Arts Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for fine arts/performing & visual arts related certificate, diploma and/or degree program.

### **Social Work Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for social work related any certificate, diploma and/or degree program.

### **Aboriginal Language / Linguistics Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for aboriginal language related certificate, diploma and/or degree program.

### **Aboriginal Governance / Leadership Scholarship**

\$2,000 awarded annually for aboriginal leadership related certificate, diploma and/or degree program.

### **Short-Term Scholarship**

\$1,000 awarded annually for short term courses (3 months – 6 months)

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Cover letter indicating:

- Type of scholarships (indicate more than one) related to your field of study
- Field of study
- Level of academic achievement

Fully completed DFN Memorial Award & Scholarship Application Form

- Copy of most recent transcripts
- Acceptance letter from a college, university, trade, technical or business school
- Current letter of support from your First Nation Chief or Local Metis President or Elder
- Copy of Treaty status card or Letter from Local Metis President
- Passport Size Photo (optional)

500 Word Essay (1.5 spacing, 12 font) outlining:

- Reflect why you should receive your choice of Memorial Award/Scholarship
- Fluency in Dene Zhatie & cultural practices
- Academic goals & career plans
- Personal contributions to your education
- Academic accomplishments
- Interests
- Volunteer work
- Dehcho Community reciprocity

Languages Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_ Dene Zhatie \_\_\_\_\_ English \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Preference will be given to resident Dehcho Dene

**Submit your application package to:**

Scholarship Committee  
Dehcho First Nation  
PO Box 89  
Fort Simpson NT X0E 0N0  
Fax: 1-867-695-2038

**Scholarship deadline: July 31<sup>st</sup> annually FIRM DEADLINE**

## MEMORIAL AWARD & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name:	
Phone Number:	Cell Number:
Email Address:	
Permanent Address:	
Post-Secondary Address: (to be submitted to DFN with registration/letter of acceptance from educational institution)	

**Member Community:**

Acho Dene Koe First Nation/Fort Liard	Tthetsekehdeli Jean Marie River First Nation	Pehdzeh Ki First Nation Wrigley
Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation Fort Providence	Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation Kakisa lake	Sambaa K'e First Nation Trout Lake
Naha Dehe Dene Band Nahanni Butte	Katlodeeche First Nation/Hay River Reserve	Ts'u Ehda West Point First Nation
Fort Providence Metis Nation	Liidlii Kue First Nation Fort Simpson	Fort Simpson Metis Nation

**Dehcho Family History:**

Mother's Side	Father's Side
Mother	Father
Grandmother	Grandmother
Grandfather	Grandfather
Great Grandmother	Great Grandmother
Great Grandfather	Great Grandfather

Check scholarship you are applying for:

	<b>Phoebe Nahanni Memorial Award (\$12,000 Multi-year to Dehcho Dene descendants)</b> Masters Degree or Doctorate Degree in Natural Sciences, Law and/or Political Science
	<b>Mary Cazon Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2)</b> Environmental Sciences, Health & Wellness and/or Naturopathy
	<b>Mitch Landry (Corbeau) Memorial Award – (\$3,000 x 2)</b> Environment & Resource Management, Humanities/Social Sciences, Aboriginal Languages and/or Linguistics
	<b>Albertine Rodh Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2)</b> Native Studies, Women’s Studies/Gender Studies, Political Science and/or Education.
	<b>Dene Traditional Knowledge (\$1000)</b> Land Based Skills courses (3-6 months)
	<b>Open Studies / General Studies Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> General studies diploma, certificate or access year programs.
	<b>Early Childhood Education Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Early Childhood Education Program and/or Bachelor of Education degree
	<b>Teacher Education Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Teacher education programs or any Education related certificate, diploma or degree
	<b>Medical Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Medical related diploma/degree programs
	<b>Business Scholarship – (\$2,000)</b> Certificate, diploma or degree programs
	<b>Engineering/Computer Science Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Related certificate, diploma or degree programs.
	<b>Fine Arts / Performing Arts Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Related certificate, diploma or degree programs.
	<b>Social Work Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Related certificate, diploma or degree program
	<b>Aboriginal Language Scholarship (\$2,000)</b> Related certificate, diploma or degree program
	<b>Aboriginal Governance / Aboriginal Leadership (\$2,000)</b> Related certificate, diploma or Degree program
	<b>Short-Term Scholarship – (\$1,000)</b> Short term courses (3 – 6 months)

***I hereby certify that the information provided by me on this application form and in the accompanying documents are true, accurate and complete, to the best of my knowledge.***

***I understand and accept that this information will be used by the Dehcho First Nation Scholarship Committee for the purpose of selection, statistical analysis, and that DFN may wish to follow-up with successful applicants. DFN agrees to keep information confidential.***

***If my application is successful, I authorize the publication of my name and will provide a recent graduation photograph for press release purposes.***

***I understand that although I may apply for numerous DFN Scholarships, I will be eligible to receive only one scholarship per academic year.***

**Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**