

DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

Memorial Awards & Scholarships

Information & Application Form



Dehcho First Nations
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PREAMBLE

Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards & Scholarships were established by the Dehcho First Nations Leadership in 1995. It was the vision then, and it remains today, that Dehcho Dene descendants would confidently pursue post-secondary education. Our goal at the Dehcho First Nations is to ensure that our Dehcho descendants have access to post-secondary education and to achieve equitable representation.

Dehcho Dene Gha Ehtth'i Góꝛꝛ

That'o, ekuh, 1995, Dehcho First Nations, amií Dehcho Dene edítłéh kúę genidhę kaa samba goghá nezų góꝛꝛ. That'o samba goghá segilá, dúh, k'ala kaondjĥ, Dehcho Dene k'éle kadulé edítłéh kúę ageht'j.

The Memorial Awards and Scholarships provide support for the advancement of Dehcho Dene. A goal of the Dehcho descendants is to achieve sovereignty in education through independence, self-determination, and well-being. By supporting post-secondary education for our Dehcho descendants, we are also providing a foundation for future generations. It is our intention to encourage Dehcho members to return home so that we can build capacity and develop a robust future for our First Nations.

Amií Dehcho Dene edítłéh kúę genidhę kaa samba goghá thelá. Amií edítłéh kúę genidhę kadulá ageht'j. Dene k'éle kĥ dittha deghá eghalaeda ageht'j enidhę, kadulé nezų yundáa goghá dek'ehts'endjĥ soondjĥ. Dehcho Dene gots'atthidj enidę, yundáa goghá goꝛꝛ, edítłéh kúę eghalaeda k'junitthę soondjĥ. Edítłéh got'ła agéht'j, kadulé ejo yundáa nagheghá eghalegenda.

We believe education is the key to living and working in both the Dene and western worlds, balancing traditional values with the contemporary realities of today. The memorial awards were established in memory of respected Dehcho Elders and community members. Through these memorial awards, we honour and remember their dedication, commitment, vision, and teachings for the advancement of Dehcho Dene culture and way of life.

Edítłéh kúę aguat'j, kadulé Dehcho Dene nahe ndéh k'achu eghalegindeh. That'o, Nahecho got'sé amií nahe eghaelada, ekúh edítłéh kúę genidhę kaa samba goghá nezų goꝛꝛ. Nahecho hutli naghe gha eghalegindeh monats'enitthę. Dehcho Dene hutli edi gha eghalegindeh kadulé naghe t'ah nezu nats'endeh.

INTRODUCTION

Our culture and identity are embodied in Dene Zhatie, forming a central foundation that is enhanced and strengthened through life-long learning. Our ancestors believed that for the Dene to succeed in both worlds, the Dehcho Dene must maintain their Dene worldview within a Western society. It is for this reason that the Dehcho Memorial Awards and Scholarships will provide support and encouragement to the Dehcho Dene. It is a core value of Dehcho Dene Leadership to support quality education and a prosperous 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/Sambaa K'e, Jean Marie River First Nation/Jean Marie River, Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation/Kakisa Lake, Deh Gah Got'ie Dene Council/Fort Providence, Katlodeeche First Nation/Hay River Reserve, West Point First Nation/Ts'u Ehda, Fort Providence Metis Nation, and Fort Simpson Metis Nation.

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

POLICY

1. Applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Be a Dehcho descendent.
 - b. Be enrolled in an accredited post-secondary, continuing education, traditional knowledge, or language program.
2. Priority will be given to Dehcho residents.
3. Recipients must provide transcripts each semester and maintain a minimum of 60% GPA.
4. Recipients may not change their chosen field of study within the duration of the award.
5. Applicants who are 21 years old and older by the 1st day of classes are considered a mature student.
6. The annual deadline to apply for the Dehcho First Nations Memorial Awards and Scholarships is June 30th.
7. Applicants who wish to appeal must inform the Dehcho First Nations Executive Director in writing, who will in turn bring the appeal to the Dehcho First Nations Executive Committee.

PROCEDURES

1. Applicants can apply for a maximum of four scholarships associated with certificate, diploma, or undergraduate degrees. Applicants enrolled in advanced degrees such as Law, Medical Doctor, Masters, and PhD may be eligible for additional scholarships dependent on the availability of funds.
2. Only applicants submitting a complete application package by the advertised deadline, as per the scholarship guidelines, will be considered.
3. Dehcho First Nations' Scholarship Committee recommendations are submitted to DFN Leadership.
4. DFN Leadership considers/approves the Scholarship Committee recommendations through a motion signed by Leadership.
5. Dehcho First Nations will advertise DFN Scholarship intake by April 1st.
6. Applications will be accepted by regular mail to Scholarship Committee, Dehcho First Nations PO Box 89 Fort Simpson, NT X0E 0N0, by fax to (867) 695-2038, or by email to DFN_scholarship@dehcho.org

DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS 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 relationships. 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 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 Indigenous 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 (biology, physics, chemistry, earth science, and astronomy), 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, Indigenous 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 Indigenous 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 NATIONS SCHOLARSHIPS

Athletic Scholarship

\$1000 awarded annually to top performing athletes with recommendation by their Coach.
\$5000 awarded annually to a top performing athlete at the National or International level, with recommendation by their Coach.

Business Scholarship

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

Dene Traditional Knowledge

\$1,000 awarded annually for any land-based skill courses.

Early Childhood Education Scholarship

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

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.

Indigenous Governance/Leadership Scholarship

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

Indigenous Language/Linguistics Scholarship

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

Medical Scholarship

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

Open/General Studies Scholarship

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

Short-Term Scholarship

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

Social Work Scholarship

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

Teacher Education Scholarship

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

Trades Scholarship

\$1,000 awarded annually for pre-trades and trades programs.

NorZinc Scholarship

Two \$3,000 scholarships awarded annually for any discipline.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Cover letter indicating:
 - Type of scholarships you are applying for
 - Field of study
 - Level of academic achievement

- 2) Completed DFN Memorial Awards & Scholarships Application Form (last two pages) and
 - 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

- 3) 500 Word Essay (1.5 spacing, 12 pt font) outlining:
 - Why you should receive your choice of Memorial Award/Scholarship
 - Fluency in Dene Zhatie & cultural practices or cultural revitalization efforts
 - Academic goals & accomplishments
 - Financial need
 - Career goals
 - Interests
 - Volunteer work
 - Upon graduation how will you give back to the Dehcho?

Submit your application package to: Scholarship Committee
Dehcho First Nations
PO Box 89
Fort Simpson NT X0E 0N0
Fax: (867) 695-2038
Email: DFN_scholarship@dehcho.org

Scholarship annual deadline: **June 30th**

MEMORIAL AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION FORM

Name:	
Date of Birth: (YYYY/MM/DD)	
Phone Number:	Cell Number:
Email Address:	
Permanent Address:	
Address while attending post-secondary:	
Languages Spoken: _____ Dene Zhatie _____ English _____ Other	
What year of post-secondary are you in? Year _____ of a _____ year program	

Member Community:

Acho Dene Koe First Nation Fort Liard	Tthetsekehdeli Jean Marie River	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 Sambaa K'e
Naha Dehe Dene Band Nahanni Butte	Katlodeeche First Nation Hay River Reserve	West Point First Nation Ts'u Ehda
Fort Providence Metis Nation	Liidlil 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

Please check the scholarship/s you are applying for:

	Phoebe Nahanni Memorial Award (\$12,000 Multi-year) Master's degree or Doctorate Degree in Natural Sciences, Law and/or Political Science
	Mary Cazon Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2) Environmental Sciences, Health & Wellness, and/or Naturopathy
	Mitch Landry (Corbeau) Memorial Award – (\$3,000 x 2) Environment & Resource Management, Humanities/Social Sciences, Indigenous Languages, and/or Linguistics
	Albertine Rodh Memorial Award (\$3,000 x 2) Native Studies, Women's Studies/Gender Studies, Political Science, and/or Education
	Athletic Scholarship (\$5,000/\$1,000)
	Business Scholarship – (\$2,000) Certificate, diploma, or degree programs
	Dene Traditional Knowledge (\$1000) Land Based Skills courses
	Early Childhood Education Scholarship (\$2,000) Early Childhood Education Program and/or Bachelor of Education degree
	Engineering/Computer Science Scholarship (\$2,000) Related certificate, diploma, or degree programs
	Fine Arts / Performing Arts Scholarship (\$2,000) Related certificate, diploma, or degree programs
	Indigenous Governance / Indigenous Leadership (\$2,000) Related certificate, diploma, or Degree
	Indigenous Language Scholarship (\$2,000) Related certificate, diploma, or degree program
	Medical Scholarship (\$2,000) Medical related diploma/degree programs
	Open Studies / General Studies Scholarship (\$2,000) General studies certificate, diploma, or access year program
	Short-Term Scholarship – (\$1,000) Short term courses (3 – 6 months)
	Social Work Scholarship (\$2,000) Related certificate, diploma, or degree program
	Teacher Education Scholarship (\$2,000) Teacher education programs or any Education related certificate, diploma, or degree
	Trades Scholarship (\$1,000) Pre-trades and trades programs
	NorZinc Scholarship (\$3,000 X 2) Any post-secondary discipline

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application 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 Nations 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.

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:** _____