

NEWS RELEASE

Scholarships support transfer students with outstanding academic and volunteer service

VICTORIA, December 8, 2022 – Andrew Gerrand, who is working toward his degree in Business Administration, appreciates the value of a helping hand, especially when it means \$5,000 to help him with the cost of transferring from Selkirk College to Okanagan College to finish his studies.

Andrew is among 92 post-secondary students who received a total of \$460,000 from the BC Scholarship Society this year through the *Ike Barber Transfer Scholarship* program.

The scholarships are awarded annually by the BC Scholarship Society to undergraduate students who have completed at least one year at a public post-secondary institution in B.C. and are transferring to another institution to complete their studies.

“The Ike Barber Transfer Scholarship has helped me with school costs such as books and tuition, as well as life costs such as rent and groceries”, Andrew explained. *“The scholarship has allowed me to focus my time and effort towards my continued education. I am extremely grateful for the financial support as I navigate this new chapter in my life.”*

Funds for the Scholarships come from the returns on a \$15 million endowment established by the province in 2006. To qualify for a transfer scholarship, students must demonstrate strong academic achievement and significant volunteer service to their school or community. The *Scholarship* is named after entrepreneur and philanthropist Irving K Barber, who had a long history of supporting public post-secondary education in British Columbia before his death in 2012.

“We are committed to making post-secondary education more accessible and affordable for students and part of this is making it easy for students to move between post-secondary institutions to fulfill their education journey,” said Anne Kang, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training. *“These scholarships open doors for students by recognizing their talent, dedication, and pursuit of knowledge and by helping them to design their education pathway.”*

Since its founding in 2006, the [BC Scholarship Society](https://www.bcscholarshipsociety.ca) has awarded over \$30 million in scholarships and awards to thousands of BC students through five different programs including *Transfer*, *International*, *Indigenous*, *Adult Basic Education*, and *Women in Technology*. The Society is administered by the Victoria Foundation.

“Awards from BC Scholarship Society are more than just financial assistance - they are life assistance and can be life changing. We are proud to provide this support and to be able to help develop future leaders,” noted Society Chair, Mel Berg.

Recipients and Information: A list of this year’s recipients, along with application procedures for the *Ike Barber Transfer Scholarship*, can be found at:

<https://www.bcscholarshipsociety.ca/transfer-scholarships/about-this-scholarship/>

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