

AWARDS INTRODUCTION

WHY DO ORGANIZATIONS OFFER AWARDS?

The Government of British Columbia, individuals, clubs, lodges, companies, and other groups in the Nechako Lakes District are proud of the graduates of our school system. They wish to recognize deserving students who plan to continue their education after Grade 12. Recognition of student accomplishment in the form of awards not only confers honour on students but also brings them financial rewards that help offset expenses when continuing their education.

WHAT TYPES OF AWARDS ARE OFFERED?

Two types of awards are available: **BURSARIES** and **SCHOLARSHIPS**.

BURSARIES are given to deserving students with satisfactory academic standing who require financial assistance, and who meet other conditions specified within this booklet.

SCHOLARSHIPS are awarded mainly for outstanding academic achievement. Normally, scholarships are not dependent on other factors such as financial need or social activity. Some organizations, however, do specify these as secondary criteria.

HOW EXTENSIVE IS THE FUNDING OF AWARDS?

This year, more than **80** organizations are sponsoring awards. They have donated approximately **\$65,000**; and it is anticipated that more than **100** students from School District No. 91 will receive awards.

The costs of post-secondary education rise each year. Students who attend an educational institution away from home can expect to spend \$10,000 or more each year. Note the following estimates of some of the costs:

Tuition and other fees:	\$ 2,000 - \$ 3,000
Books and supplies:	\$ 800 - \$ 1,000
Accommodation and food:	\$ 4,000 - \$ 5,000
Transportation, recreation, miscellaneous:	\$ 1,500 - \$ 2,000

Successful applicants will certainly appreciate the contributions towards these expenses offered through the awards.

WHICH AWARDS SHOULD I APPLY FOR?

It is important to carefully read the description of each award so that the eligibility criteria, application procedures, deadlines, and special considerations are clear. **Students are encouraged to apply for ALL awards for which they may be eligible.** It is a sound rule of thumb that for every award for which you might be eligible, every year hundreds of thousands of dollars go unclaimed in North America simply because students do not apply.

When applying for a number of scholarships and bursaries, check off only the awards for which you are eligible and carefully verify that you do in fact qualify for the award(s). In your letter of application, be certain that the content of the letter directly relates to the award(s) being applied for.

