



Message from the CEO

Welcome to our e-newsletter. As part of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation's ongoing growth and outreach we are pleased to send you our monthly e-news. This electronic platform will provide us with instant capability to reach thousands at the press of a key. With our growing database, more individuals will be able to access even more information on a regular basis from NAAF.

>From updates on deadlines for scholarships and bursaries, downloadable application forms to news bites and links to our photos and various events, this e-newsletter will bring news from NAAF to your computer screen each month. We are going to include updates on our laureates and special student profiles. And on occasion we will be creating special-issue e-newsletters. We hope you enjoy. Please feel free to pass it on. With your support, together we can assist Aboriginal people to reach their potential.

Best regards,

Roberta Jamieson

President and CEO
National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

NAAF supports the progress of Inuit education

Major Inuvik Education Summit

President and CEO of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, Roberta Jamieson addressed the National Inuit Education Summit in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, April 16.

Entitled "Toward a National Inuit Education Strategy", the conference was presented by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), which brought together educators and Inuit leaders from across the Arctic to discuss barriers and challenges to Inuit education and a strategy for progress.

"We are very proud of the Foundation's support of the north," said CEO and President Roberta Jamieson. "The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation looks forward to partnering with your organizations, professional societies, governments, and corporations to help you achieve that strategy for success."

"In addition, the Foundation stands ready to provide funding for Inuit who wish to pursue post-secondary education and training as an instrument for the realization of achievement plans."

BluePrint for the Future locations announced

Entertainment and Education



The very successful BluePrint For the Future Career Fair is proud to announce the new locations of the upcoming events.

On October 6, 2008 - Inukshuk High School in Iqaluit, Nunavut will host the first one. The second will be Winnipeg, Manitoba January 14, 2009 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

(Above: BBF Host Actor Adam Beach at the 2007 BBF in Edmonton)

APPLY NOW

Education deadlines for bursary and scholarships

April 30 and November 30 - Annually for Oil and Gas and Trades and Technology (OGTT)

Adjusting to the changing demographic of Canada's Aboriginal population and helping fill the demand for trained workers in Alberta's oil and gas industry, the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation's Oil & Gas Trades and Technology (OGTT) Bursary and Scholarship program is inline with today's changing world.

UPLOAD

Calendar dates & news bites

*** The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation** in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres is pleased to announce the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC) Bursary Awards Program. The first recipients were chosen by a jury last week. Each will receive \$5000.

*** Launch** for the Aboriginal Law Student Scholarship Trust - NAAF in association with the The Canadian Bar Association (BC Branch) - May 2

*** Launch** of the 2009 National Aboriginal Achievement Awards Nomination Campaign - Winnipeg - June 10 - Toronto - June 25

***First Recipients announced** - The first recipients of the Oil and Gas Trades and Technology Bursary and Scholarship program were presented in a ceremony at SAIT in Calgary April 1st. The Bursary and Scholarship program is supported generously by BP Canada, TransCanada, Suncor Energy Foundation, Petro Canada, and Shell Canada.

*** NEW STAFF** - It is with great pleasure that the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation announce the newest addition to the Foundation, Director of Education, Dr. Noella Steinhauer. Esteemed international scholar and Cree educator will lead the education department of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation.

*** New Bursary** - To honour the memory of iconic visual artist Norval Morrisseau, the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation is pleased to announce a new arts bursary. The Norval Morrisseau Arts Bursary in the amount of \$5,000 will be awarded on the basis of artistic merit to an emerging visual artist pursuing the development of his/her career. The official announcement was made at the National Gallery of Canada March 31 in Ottawa.

[more media](#)

FastForward

An update with former NAAA Laureates

Alanis Obomsawin - 1994

Alanis Obomsawin was proudly the recipient of the first National Aboriginal Achievement Award for the Arts known in 1994 as Canadian Native Arts Foundation award for film. A woman of extraordinary accomplishment, she continues to thrive as one of Canada's most famous indigenous filmmakers and documentarians.



In her latest film the 2007 National Film Board of Canada documentary "Gene Boy Came Home", Alanis turns her camera to the ugliness of war through the eyes of one survivor, Vietnam War veteran Eugene "Gene Boy" Benedict from her home community of Odanak.

May 1 - for Fine Arts

Post Secondary studies, personal development, training with a professional or at a non-accredited arts organization, in fields such as visual, performing, media, theatre, production, graphic and literary arts.

May 1 - for Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres Bursary

A new \$10,000 bursary that supports Aboriginal mothers in an urban setting is an essential support mechanism for these women. The National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres is pleased to support the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC) Bursary Awards Program.

June 1 - Post-secondary Education

Business, science, law, engineering, technical studies, computer science, education, social work, and the social sciences. This category includes the Aboriginal Veterans Scholarship Trust and the Diana Fowler LeBlanc Aboriginal Social Work Scholarship.

June 1 - Aboriginal Health Careers

Health sciences such as medicine, nursing, dentistry, biology, chemistry, clinical psychology, physiotherapy, pharmacy, laboratory research and any other health field in which a study of hard sciences is a prerequisite.

Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch provides funding for health bursaries and scholarships, Blueprint for the Future career fairs and Health in the Classroom.

[APPLICATIONS](#)

Student

PROFILE

Fauna Kingdon, Metis, 24



**Winnipeg,
Manitoba**

**University of
Saskatchewan -
Master of
Professional
Accounting at the
University of
Saskatchewan**

I believe that striving for a sense of balance in my life has contributed the most to my success. It is important to achieve a healthy lifestyle and mindset when pursuing multiple initiatives and goals in life. I believe that my family and friends have also been an important support network and surrounding myself with positive and motivating relationships has been incredibly beneficial.

Considering that the Aboriginal demographic and population in Canada is the fastest growing, it is important that Aboriginal youth have all the tools and education necessary to accomplish individual goals and to contribute the strength and prosperity of our people. First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth have so much potential in a variety of ways and it is important that we all embrace education as an important step towards achieving this potential.

I think it is important all Aboriginal youth utilize their own individual strengths and talents when deciding which profession, trade, or career that they wish to pursue. Everyone is unique and it is important that a person pursue something of interest that also provides a sense of accomplishment and pride.

Most recently she received the 2008 Governor General's Award Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement.

The latest recognition for the internationally renowned, 1994 NAAA Laureate Alanis Obonsawin is a retrospective of her work at the Museum of Modern Art in New York from May 14 to 26 2008.

[Full List of Laureates](#)

NOMINATE SOMEONE OUTSTANDING For 2009 AWARDS

Each year a Gala show is produced by the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, recognizing the numerous talents possessed by Aboriginal people in Canada. This annual black-tie event is held in a major Canadian city and hosts approximately 2,500 people from the Aboriginal community, corporate and public sectors. [Visit NOMINATIONS](#) for a form.



(Governor General Michaëlle Jean greets Education Recipient Dr. Marie Battiste at the 2008 Awards Gala.)

(Each month NAAF will profile another successful education recipient - for a complete list of students supported this year visit [Education Recipients](#))

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