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Greetings,

I have just received the wonderful news that the 2009 National Aboriginal Achievement Awards is nominated in two categories for the prestigious Gemini Award, recognizing the year's best in Canadian English-language television.



Hosts of the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards Adam Beach and Tina Keeper are nominated in the 'Best Performance or Host in a Variety Program or Series' category. The 16th Annual Awards show which recognizes the best and brightest in the Aboriginal community also garnered a nomination for 'Best Achievement in Main Title Design.'

[\(see official press release\)](#)

Congratulations to our dedicated production team who worked very hard this year in creating one of our most vibrant and professional shows!

The Gemini nominations gives us extra motivation to make the 2010 Awards Gala the best ever. We hope everyone across Canada will join us for the show and share the powerful message of Aboriginal achievement.

Nya:weh

Roberta Jamieson
President and CEO
National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation



[Recent Bursary Recipients](#)

Beth Kotierk
Proud recipient of the first Norval Morrisseau Arts Bursary



Inuk***Toronto, Ontario***

Second year of a four year Sculpture/Installation program at the Ontario College of Art and Design in Toronto

"I'm very happy and honored to receive this award. I sometimes feel like I don't know what I'm doing but receiving the first ever Norval Morriseau award has relieved me of that doubt. Almost like a confirmation that I'm on the right track, which feels really good. Now that I have this funding, I really want to step up to the plate this year. I'll be able to buy better quality materials instead of tightly budgeting with my education and artwork. I really want to produce works that are well thought out and finished. I feel like I'm being pushed further which can be intimidating, but it's mostly exciting. I'm very grateful for this opportunity and support. Qujannamiik!"

Carolyn Brown***First Nation******British Columbia***

Final year of a two year Masters of Economics program at Concordia University



"I am strongly committed to making a contribution to the eventual economic and social successes of the First Nations communities in Canada."

Stonehorse Moore***First Nation******Ontario***

First year of a two year Indigenous Foundations of Learning program at Trent University

"I have chosen to go into the Indigenous Foundations of learning diploma program. After completion of this program I wish to on to the University of Toronto....I wish to become a fluent Oneida language speaker....I want to help in the revitalisation of my language."



[2008/09 Scholarship Recipients](#)

Fast Forward >>**An update with NAAA Laureate*****The Honourable Madame Justice Rose******Toodick Boyko******1999 Law and Justice Award Recipient***

A Tsek'Ehne First Nation member, Justice Boyko completed high school in Prince George, B.C. and then Montreal before joining the nursing profession, becoming among the first of a generation of nurses destined to forever positively impact First Nations peoples. Her work took her



to nursing stations in remote Cree communities around James Bay. From there, she was thrown into the thick of it, serving in critical care areas in Kingston General Hospital.

Justice Boyko has long been active in the Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada. After that, she set her sights upon the law, receiving a B.A. from one of Canada's greatest universities, Queen's, and then earning her law degree at the same institution three years later. Her law school dean has praised her constant efforts at advancing the interests of Aboriginal law students and reaching out to Aboriginal law graduates. She was never too busy to meet with students, serving as both a role model and mentor.

Justice Boyko was the first Aboriginal woman appointed to a superior court in Canada spending 15 years as a judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. She retired from the Newmarket, Ont., court in November of 2008.

More recently Justice Boyko began yet another chapter in her storied life with her appointment on March 2, 2009 along with six other judges, to a seven-year term on the UN Appeals Tribunal. The Tribunal was created in 2007 to help bolster the world body's system of dealing with internal grievances and disciplinary cases.

Boyko fondly states "it was such a pleasure for me to share the experience of my appointment with members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band recently at our annual general assembly. I had the honour and the pleasure of addressing high school and post secondary graduates, encouraging them to come and visit me in New York City, all of which was supported by Chief and Council."

Boyko also says that "receiving the National Aboriginal Achievement Award was so very memorable that it still feels like it happened yesterday, when in fact it was 10 years ago. Receiving this award is such a great distinction that I still glow with pride to have been a recipient."

[All previous recipients](#)



New director to provide leadership in strategic and resource development for NAAF



It is with great pleasure that the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation announce the newest addition to the Foundation, Darryl Peck, CFRE, CGE-RS in the new position of Director of Strategic and Resource Development.

"I'm delighted to be part of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation and look forward to continuing to expand the already great work the foundation does," Darryl says.

Darryl's career as an accomplished fundraising professional is impressive. He served as Associate Director of Advancement at York University with responsibility for planning and managing individual, foundation, alumni and employee giving for York's 1st Capital Campaign, which exceeded its \$100 M goal.

He worked with the Mendel Art Gallery on the gallery's \$22-million capital campaign where he recruited 32 individuals to the Gallery's Capital Campaign team from a starting point of zero and closed over \$1 million in gifts in less than 10 months and involved the City of Saskatoon's Aboriginal leadership in the campaign. He established the Ontario March of Dimes (OMOD) major gifts and endowment programs and most recently Darryl worked with the University of Winnipeg on its capital campaign.

"I am confident Darryl will enrich NAAF's fundraising arm and continue to build upon our relationships with our key partners and open up new partnerships with the private and public sectors," says Roberta Jamieson, President and CEO of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation.

Feature: Our summer students

Nicole Kohoko

Aanii, my name is Nicole Kohoko and am a nineteen year old from Pikwakanagan First Nation. I am entering my third year of a four year Honours Bachelor of Indigenous Studies at Trent University. I am honoured to say this has been my second summer with the foundation, and have enjoyed every minute. I have learned greatly from all the staff members, and will take away plenty of knowledge that the foundation was able to provide me. It was a great summer!



Naomi Denis

I am glad that I was chosen to work for NAAF this summer - it has been a great experience. As a Ryerson University Journalism student, one of my goals is to own such a fine foundation as NAAF. I love it because I get a chance to help, in a small way, by getting other Aboriginal students to apply for scholarships and bursaries at NAAF. I really believe that education is key to a successful future and I want to be able to do what NAAF does, helping Aboriginal youth realize their potential by obtaining their education. I really enjoyed working here. I have done a variety of things this summer from working in the office doing paper work and filing to working behind the scene for a commercial with Digging Roots and getting the chance to work with Lorne Cardinal in the studio. I have learned how to do a lot of things that I didn't know before this summer. I can honestly say working here has opened quite a few doors for me and I can't wait to explore what else there is out there. Working at NAAF has given me the courage to trust in



myself, continue with my education and explore the world.

Nickey Hill

I have been a summer student at the NAAF since June and it has been a fun and enjoyable learning experience. I was mainly working in the Education Department but also got to spend some time in the Finance Department as I am currently enrolled in the Accounting program at Ryerson University in Toronto. I was employed at the Six Nations office and found it to be an awesome working environment due to the very helpful and friendly staff. I also had a lot of fun attending the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards launch party in Toronto as well as the NAAF golf tournament. This organization helps out a lot of students financially during the school year and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of their team.



On the road with NAAF

Events attended by NAAF:

35th All Ontario Chiefs Conference in Batchewana First Nation - July 7-9, 2009

During the three day conference, NAAF held a promotional station, providing information about the current nomination call for the NAAA and upcoming Blueprint for the Future Career Fair taking place in nearby Thunder Bay February 10, 2010.

NAAF congratulates Regional Chief Angus Toulouse in his re-election during the conference.

NAFC 38th Annual General Meeting in Niagara Falls - July 14-17, 2009

Members of the education and communication departments were on hand to deliver educational and NAAA outreach to Aboriginal students, organizations and communities who were in attendance.



Assembly of First Nations 30th Annual General Assembly in Calgary - 21-23, 2009

NAAF staff and their impressive booth were stationed at this year's assembly in Calgary. NAAF would like to congratulate the newly elected National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo.

Job Board
EMPLOYERS - Post your jobs!
STUDENTS - Fill these jobs!
communications@naaf.ca naaf.ca

Nominating someone and you could win a trip for two to the 2010 NAAA gala in Regina Sask.

Nominate an Achiever for a NAAA!

Deadline • September 23 2009
416 987 0241 naaf.ca

Chelsea Lavallée - Special Youth Award Recipient

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