

## **CUPE 4784 Annual Bursary**

The Canadian Union of Public Employees is Canada's largest union. CUPE represents 680,000 workers in a wide range of occupations from coast to coast. My mom has worked as an education assistant for the Good Spirit School Division, at P.J.Gillen elementary school in Esterhazy for over four years now. She loves her role in education and feels confident with her job security thanks to her CUPE 4784 union. She has recently completed her Education Assistant college course at Assiniboine Community College through distant learning. Her current job is part-time and we love the flexibility it offers our family. CUPE helps members provide the highest level of service by ensuring they are safe and healthy at work. There have been recent times at work that my mom and her peers did not feel their safety was a priority. They had to ask their union representative to speak up and stand up for them. Extra meetings were called, and soon extra protective wear was provided, self-defense training was provided, and additional support staff was hired to ease their responsibilities at work. This is just one example of how CUPE 4784 helped my mom and kept her safe at her workplace. CUPE has her back.

I would love the opportunity to be awarded the CUPE 4784 Annual Bursary. It would help me pay for most of my term 1 text books!

I am currently enrolled into the Faculty of Arts at Brandon University for the fall of 2019. I am looking forward to continuing my education by studying Women's and Gender Studies. I am hoping that this post-secondary education helps steer me into a career path.

My volunteer activities throughout high school have been with Big Brothers and Big Sisters golf tournaments and canteen work at the Esterhazy Halloween cabaret under the direction of Irma Van De Bon. I've worked in the school library for P.J. Gillen family fun nights, and book fairs,

under the direction of the principal, Kelsey Shields, several times throughout each school year. I volunteer annually for the Mosaic kids Christmas party, under the direction of Alana Burns, organizing crafts and I help bi-weekly at the Esterhazy public library craft club, under the direction of Daisha Vaughn and the librarian Christine Moroz. My volunteer experiences have led me to a full-time summer student position at the Esterhazy Jean Pask library!

In my spare time I really enjoy hanging out with my family and friends. I enjoy watching Netflix and YouTube videos, I love listening to music and playing card games such as Double Solitaire and Stick Rummy. I enjoy camping with my family, going for quad rides, and snowmobiling, fishing and tubing! I am really looking forward to the summer, and my high school graduation celebrations.