



THE ROTARY CLUB OF KELOWNA FOUNDATION STRIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OBJECTIVES



Objective: To Reward Behavioural & Scholastic Improvement

Traditionally, scholarships are given to the top scholastic students. The Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation Strive Scholarship Program aims at the other end of the achievement spectrum. The targeted students are those struggling in "life", perhaps because of a poor home life, a negative peer group, or a lack of motivation toward learning. They are almost to the point of thinking "what's the use". Their past poor school performance has been a result of that struggle. If their life situation does not change, the result is often unemployment, under-employment or, on occasion, conflict with the law. In all cases, the long term cost to society is considerable. This scholarship addresses that need.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria: The student:

1. can graduate in the current year with a minimum 60% course average in their grade 12 year;
2. has qualified for entrance to an accredited post-secondary institution for a minimum 20 week program;
3. has demonstrated a positive behavioural change through improved attendance, work habits, attitude towards learning resulting in improved grades over their grade 11 and grade 12 years.
4. fills out the Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation Strive Scholarship Program application form completely and truthfully and submits it before the deadline.
5. acknowledges receipt of the scholarship in a letter to Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation.

Rotary Participation

Several \$500 scholarships will be provided to a number of successful students. The Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation organizes the program. The funds for the scholarship are provided by the Rotary Club of Kelowna Foundation, the Rotary Club of Kelowna, other Rotary Clubs, local corporations and philanthropic individuals within our community. The scholarship will be paid directly to an accredited post-secondary institution, in the name of the student, and is applied to the entrance fee for a minimum 20 week post secondary training or educational program.

Corporate Participation

The benefits of the Strive Scholarship Program do not stop there. The Foundation and the Club will also interface with the business community to enrich the program. An integral component of this initiative is having the student set career/vocational goals and then be aligned with the business community to develop employment opportunities. Summer and part-time employment during their post secondary educational pursuits will give students first hand experience and the employer gets an opportunity to evaluate the student's potential. Longer term employment may result. Students who have made the effort to improve their individual situations, are apt to become very good employees. Rotary will attempt to bring interested students together with prospective employers. While participating businesses are not obligated to hire the student if the need is not there or if the student is not a 'fit', the process of taking advantage of this opportunity will be terrific.

Student Payoff

The program challenges the students to **STRIVE** to improve their attendance, work habits and/or attitude toward learning, in order to improve their school achievement. The ROTARY CLUB OF KELOWNA FOUNDATION STRIVE SCHOLARSHIP will allow the newly motivated student to be better prepared to enter post secondary life with a more mature and positive perspective. Award winners will be presented with their scholarships at their high school graduation ceremonies. In addition, they and the sponsoring companies will also be recognized in a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Kelowna. Media will be in attendance or a press release will be communicated.

Corporate Payoff

There are three positive outcomes for the sponsoring companies:

1. The publicity that Rotary will undertake includes the sponsoring company as a partner.
2. The sponsoring company gets an opportunity to work with Rotary in order to play a part in enhancing the future of deserving young students who might otherwise be at risk.
3. The sponsoring company gets a motivated, trained and prospective long term employee

Community Payoff

An educated work force results in a higher standard of living, attracts new investments, fosters economic diversity and sustainability and contributes to the well being of the community.