

# 2022 Garry McLean Scholarship Fund Report



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101<sup>st</sup> Youth Parliament of Manitoba

# Executive Summary

For 5 years now, Youth Parliament of Manitoba (YPM) has administered the Garry McLean Scholarship Fund (GMSF), which aims to provide Indigenous youth from across Manitoba with the opportunity to attend our annual Session at no cost – an event that has traditionally been unrepresentative of Manitoba’s Indigenous population and their geographical diversity. First spearheaded by Ronald Gamblin and Ariel Melamedoff in 2016 as the Reconciliation Fund, the Fund was renamed in 2019 in honour of the late Elder Garry McLean, who was a crucial supporter of the initiative, our organization, and our mission of empowering leaders of our generation

This year, the GMSF offered support to 6 youth, one of them being a returning member to Session. All six identified as First Nations (representing St. Theresa Point First Nation, Norway House Cree Nation, and Pasqua First Nation). This year, YPM provided air travel to Winnipeg for four members all from the Northern Manitoba community of St. Theresa Point.

Their presence at Session had a marked positive impact on Session. Reconciliation was an ongoing theme throughout the week and members smudged at the Legislative building. Two recipients also led the drafting of a Private Member’s Bill called the Red Dress Act which sought to establish reconciliation projects at all levels of government to reflect the reality facing Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit individuals in Canada. Finally, in addition to our political luncheons, the Manitoba Métis Federation was invited to educate all members on Indigenous governance.

As YPM continues to learn and evolve as an organization, we strive to use our position to empower those who have been traditionally marginalized. In alignment with our mission to engage youth in politics, we must prioritize those youth who are the least represented in our legislative bodies, but who have often suffered the most at the hands of discriminatory lawmaking. The GMSF represents an excellent step in that direction, and one that we hope will continue for the years to come.

# Financials

This year we fundraised a total of \$4,154.61 for the GMSF and disbursed 100% of that money. In comparison, we raised \$7,594.56 in 2019 and disbursed \$5,196.83.

While our fundraising for GMSF was lower than anticipated due to a change in our donor base, the record-high flight sponsorship from Perimeter Aviation has reminded us of the value of community and corporate sponsors in promoting our organization and the ways it helps support youth across Manitoba.

## Breakdown of Expenditures



## **Travel**

This year, YPM flew in four members all from St. Theresa Point. This was equivalent to the number of members we flew in during our last in-person Session in 2019.

This year we also re-established our partnership with Perimeter Aviation who provided a 100% discount on flights to and from St. Theresa Point and Winnipeg, with a total value of \$3,855.36.

## **Clothing**

We spent **\$1,323.00** on formal clothing for participants, which is \$249.01 more than we spent in 2019. This year's budget for clothing was set to \$1,500 to account for inflation. We also assessed the clothing needs of all six participants prior to going shopping with them to ensure we were efficient and cost-effective.

## **Registration**

YPM charges a \$150 registration fee for all participants. As part of the GMSF, this fee is waived for all recipients. With six recipients this year, YPM absorbed **\$900** in registration fees this year.

## **Food and Discretionary**

We disbursed **\$192.99** in food stipends to cover the cost of three meals during Session, which members used to purchase their own food during the dinner break enjoyed with other participants.

There were additional costs associated with lodging recipients prior to Session this year, as our own membership was unable to host and recipients did not have family in the city to stay with. As such we paid \$1,414.08 for 3-nights lodging at a hotel. Moving forward, use of capital from our endowment fund will allow us to better budget for this possibility.

## Donors

The strength of the GMSF is largely due to the generosity and support of our many donors. We are particularly thankful for the following individuals and organizations who donated to the GMSF this year:

Perimeter Aviation (\$3,855)

Breta Passler (\$360)

Adrienne Tessier (\$55)

## Logistics

This year, applications for the GMSF opened in September and closed in November – the same timeframe as registration for Session. The logistics were streamlined through a triaging process during the application phase. On the application form, applicants were asked to indicate how much formal clothing they already owned, whether they would require transportation arrangements to Session, whether they would require accommodations in Winnipeg before the start of Winter Session, and whether they would need a food stipend. This greatly helped YPM assess what the needs of each individual recipient were and make arrangements for shopping, transportation, and accommodations accordingly.

Consistent with recommendations from previous years, all members who needed air travel from a remote community flew in on December 23, 2023. Unfortunately our members were unable to billet the four members who flew in from St. Theresa Point, but we booked a 3 night hotel stay prior to joining all members at Kelvin on December 26.

The logistics of the GMSF were headed by Alexa Mucyo Kayonga (Director of Finance), who oversaw the fundraising, collected the applications, booked the flights, and scheduled the shopping trips.

The GMSF recipients this year were: Ryleigh-Todd Moore, Maximus Brydon-DuBois, Kaydon Jade Flett, Storm Alex Cage Mason, Buddy Huntersky Flett, Jordan EagleChild Flett.