About the Elizabeth Henry Scholarship

The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship for Communities and Environmental Health supports graduate students working on research projects in partnership with British Columbian communities that are addressing environmental health issues and promoting environmental sustainability through cooperative community initiatives. The goal of these projects should be to support indigenous and non-indigenous communities in their efforts to improve air quality, environmental health or environmental sustainability in BC.

The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship was created in 2014 with support from the directors and the staff of the Fraser Basin Council to remember Elizabeth Henry and her many contributions to our organization and to communities across British Columbia. Elizabeth exhibited high ethical standards and integrity in her work, and she was committed to promoting dialogue and respectful collaboration among diverse stakeholders. The intent of the scholarship is to support community projects that reflect these values.

The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship is funded by the Fraser Basin Council, British Columbia Clean Air Research (BC CLEAR) Fund and by many friends, family members and colleagues who wish to remember Elizabeth and her work.

The Vancouver Foundation administers the scholarship fund, and the Elizabeth Henry Scholarship Committee evaluates applications and awards the scholarship.

The 2016 Scholarship Award

The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship is an annual award of $2,000 to a graduate student whose proposed research is based in British Columbia.

A successful scholarship recipient may re-enter the competition in a subsequent call for applications to apply for a second year of funding by submitting a report (limit 1,500 words) on the progress of his or her research project.
Eligibility Requirements

A successful recipient of the Elizabeth Henry Scholarship will meet the following requirements:

- The applicant must be a full-time graduate student for at least one semester before being awarded the scholarship.
- The student’s area of study and proposed research project must strive to advance air quality, environmental health or environmental sustainability through active leadership and participation in a community initiative based in British Columbia.
- The proposed project must involve the community in an active, collaborative manner, and the applicant must demonstrate that there is community support for the project.

It is an asset if the project involves a partnership between indigenous and non-indigenous communities, but it is not mandatory.

Application Process

To apply for the Elizabeth Henry Scholarship, please complete the online application form: [www.createsurvey.com/s/QUApDD/](http://www.createsurvey.com/s/QUApDD/)

As part of the online application form, you must also submit digital copies of:

- Your undergraduate transcript,
- Your transcript of graduate courses to date (if applicable), and
- Two signed letters of reference on official letterhead evaluating your capabilities and/or the significance and feasibility of your research project.

Please note: One of your letters of reference must be from an academic supervisor. Each letter of reference is limited to 500 words. As all documents must be submitted online, you may provide a PDF or scan of your transcripts and of the signed letters. It is not necessary to ask your post-secondary institution to submit official transcripts.

2016 Application Deadline

Your application, transcripts and two signed letters of reference must be received by the Fraser Basin Council via the online application form no later than May 10, 2016.

The successful candidate will be notified by July 15, 2016.

Evaluation Criteria

The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship Committee will evaluate each application based on the following:

1. Applicant’s satisfaction of eligibility requirements,
2. Applicant’s academic performance,
3. Significance and feasibility of the proposed research project, and
4. Alignment of the project with the scholarship values.

The decision of the committee will be final. Only the successful candidate will be notified. The Elizabeth Henry Scholarship Committee thanks all applicants for their interest in the scholarship.

To contribute to the Scholarship Fund, visit [www.vancouverfoundation.ca/ElizabethHenry](http://www.vancouverfoundation.ca/ElizabethHenry).

About Elizabeth

Elizabeth was a bright light in our midst. Everyone who knew Elizabeth benefited from her talent, her insight, and her warm, generous nature. She had a passion for making positive change in the world, and compassion for the people around her. She showed each of us what it means to be a good colleague and friend, and a good person.

Elizabeth was committed to education

She held a B.Sc. in Ecology from the University of Guelph and an M.A. in Adult Education from the University of British Columbia.

Elizabeth excelled at her work

As Program Coordinator of Climate Change and Air Quality at the Fraser Basin Council, Elizabeth was pivotal to the success of many climate change action and adaptations initiatives, and successfully facilitated various multi-interest processes. She coordinated programs to help local governments and First Nations increase their energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and adopt transportation demand management strategies. She also oversaw the BC Clean Air Research (BC CLEAR) Fund, which provides grants for research to support air quality in our communities.

Elizabeth loved the outdoors

We knew her to be a determined commuter cyclist who was unfazed by any weather, an avid outdoors enthusiast who loved exploring beautiful places across B.C. and Canada by ski, by bike and on foot, and as a gardener who graciously shared the bounty of her efforts.

Elizabeth made her passions an inspiration

She engaged people in sustainability issues that were important to them and their communities. She had a particular interest in developing relationships with indigenous communities through the process of decolonization, which was a major focus of her Master’s degree. She worked to engage indigenous communities in all areas of her work at FBC, helping to bridge gaps between indigenous and non-indigenous people. In everything she did, she strove to connect with people at the grassroots who were trying to make a difference in their communities.

Elizabeth left us too soon

Despite a brave effort to overcome illness, Elizabeth passed away in the spring of 2014 at the age of 32. This scholarship is one step towards honouring Elizabeth in the way she would have wished, by supporting her passion for sustainability and her desire to see good work continue.

Elizabeth was a bright light in our midst. She had passion for making positive change in the world.