#### KEYANO COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter

### Highlights Inside this Issue





## NEW INDIGENOUS STUDENT CENTRE AT KEYANO

Designed to be a home for Indigenous culture.

Rooted in Tradition, Growing Tomorrow's Leaders

CONGRATULATIONS DANIELLE, 2024 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT





## KEEGAN STURGE'S GOLD MEDAL JOURNEY AT SKILLS CANADA

**KEYANO.CA/ALUMNI** 

## NEW INDIGENOUS STUDENT CENTRE





The new Indigenous Student Centre (ISC) is an initiative to honour and respect the cultures of the Wood Buffalo region. This project is vital in our ongoing efforts toward reconciliation, inclusivity, and celebrating Indigenous heritage.

## We aim to support the social, cultural, and economic advancement of Indigenous peoples in the region.

Before designing the ISC, Keyano completed a thorough **consultation** which included intimate, one-on-one engagement with students, staff, Elders, and the community to understand how to create campus spaces that honour its legacy through an Indigenous lens.

Upon listening and reflecting on the voices consulted, the main elements that will be present in Phase 1 of the ISC include:

- Teepee/gathering space ceremonial area
- Learning commons
- Kitchen
- Display for Indigenous art and artefacts, and a
- Dedicated location for an Aunty or Elder in-residence program.



## The space will be accessible to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.

We are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where Indigenous culture is honored and celebrated.

Our goal is twofold: to instill a sense of pride among our Indigenous students by providing a dedicated space for cultural expression, and to invite non-Indigenous students to learn and appreciate the richness of Indigenous traditions.

This initiative fosters empathy, mutual respect, and a more inclusive campus environment.





# HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?





Phase 1: The Interior Renovation costs \$1.2 Million

To kick off our fundraising efforts for Phase 1, <u>The Bouchier</u> <u>Family Charitable Trust</u> has generously donated \$250,000.

However, you don't need to be a big organization to make a difference. Individuals, **like YOU**, have the ability show your support and make a difference in the lives of Indigenous peoples.

### Every Individual Contribution, Big or Small, Contributes to Lasting Change

<u>LEARN MORE</u>

<u>SUPPORT INCLUSIVITY</u>



### What are the benefits of donating?

Your generous contributions support the construction of this safe space, and:

- Donations of \$20 or more receive a tax-deductible receipt
- Named recognition on the Interactive Donor Wall in the ISC
- Named recognition on the Online ISC Donor Wall
- Receive periodic updates about the renovation and opening

Together, we can build a community where culture and tradition are encouraged and create a lasting impact for future generations.

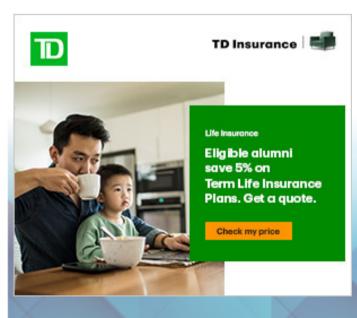


## KEEGAN STURGE WINS GOLD AT THE NATIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION

In <u>this video</u>, Keyano College's Electrical Instructor, Dawn Ohama, interviews Keegan Sturge about his incredible journey from high school enthusiast to gold medalist in electrical installation at the National Skills Canada Competition.

Discover how Keegan's passion for his trade evolved through virtual competitions during the pandemic and culminated in a national victory, all with steadfast support from his mentors at Keyano College.





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## 2024 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT - DANIELLE

The Keyano Alumni Association proudly offers one \$2,000 Scholarship to Keyano College Alumni who have previously completed an apprenticeship program, certificate, diploma, or degree program and has returned to Keyano for additional education.

The goal is to support students who are transitioning professions - because changing careers is tough, but you don't have to do it alone.

Meet Danielle, this year's recipient: "It is an honor to be selected and I cannot express how much the support means to me and my family.

The choice to return to post-secondary after 9 years was intimidating. I received my first certification through Keyano College, and I knew that it would be my first choice to attend for my second certification.

Your generosity through the Keyano College Alumni Scholarship will help ease the financial burden that a career change can bring and allow me to focus on my family and my new career.



Thank you for this opportunity."

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