

## **ANDREA ATKINSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Andrea Atkinson Memorial Scholarship honours the legacy of Andrea Atkinson, who dedicated her life's work to forestry in Saskatchewan through both her career and involvement in professional forestry related associations and activities in the province. This scholarship was established posthumously in 2022.

Andrea was born in Kapuskasing, Ontario, and grew up in North Bay, Ontario, where she was always surrounded by the forests. After high school, Andrea pursued a nursing career, enrolling in a program that she soon discovered was not for her. After working in a senior's care home and confirming that nursing wasn't her calling, she took a summer job at a camp in Algonquin Park and found herself working in the forest and chose her new field of study.

In 1979, Andrea graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry. Soon after that, Andrea and her husband Lee "temporarily" moved to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, where she became the first female forester hired in the province. Over the 38 years of her career in Saskatchewan, Andrea was a trail blazer for women in forestry throughout Saskatchewan and led the way for so many through her involvement in the Saskatchewan Section of Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF), Saskatchewan Forestry Association (SFA) and Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals (ASFP).

Andrea was a lifetime member of the Saskatchewan CIF and served on council through the 1980s until 2006. She was a huge part of organizing two national CIF conferences in Saskatchewan and represented the province at several events. She was also a major contributor to the Saskatchewan Forestry Association (SFA), serving on its executive for many years. When the Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals was in its infancy, Andrea became involved in 2006 to help the association become a reality, serving on council up until 2017.

Andrea's dedication, strength, knowledge, intelligence and great sense of humor gave her the ability to always be a leader who was professional, approaching work and life with grace, emotional intelligence and ethics. Her efforts and involvement were not about accolades or a goal to climb the ladder but for the benefit of forestry in the province, her co-workers and the future.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

This scholarship is intended to be awarded to a full-time female post-secondary student who meets the following criteria:

- Enrolled in Year Two or greater of a Canadian Institute of Forestry-recognized forest technician/technology or forestry degree program; and,

- Demonstrates knowledge in forestry, professionalism and ethics, as well as community involvement.
- Preference will be given to a Canadian citizen.

**THE AWARD:**

The award comprises a one thousand dollar (\$1000) annual scholarship. The intent is to award a single scholarship each year; however, the selection committee reserves the right not to designate a recipient in any given year when applications are deemed unsuitable.

**AWARD CRITERIA:**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Criteria Description</b>
Education	1. Full-time female post-secondary student, enrolled in Year Two or greater of a Canadian Institute of Forestry-recognized forest technician/technology program or forestry degree program.
Transcript	2. Please provide one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Official transcript,</li> <li>b. Unofficial transcript.</li> </ol>
Cover Letter	3. Provide a covering letter describing why you chose forestry your plans for your future career in forestry along with any community and/or school volunteer involvement.
Reference or Essay	4. Provide a letter of reference from your current supervisor, program instructor or community leader, OR 5. Submit an essay (no more than 500 words) on a topic of your choice that is related to Canadian forest management.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**

**The deadline for submissions is October 15 of each year.** Announcement of the recipient will take place by December 31, and will be announced by the CIF-IFC Saskatchewan Section.

Applications should be emailed to [registrar@asfp.ca](mailto:registrar@asfp.ca), with the subject line: *Andrea Atkinson Scholarship Application*.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE:**

The CIF-IFC Saskatchewan Section and the ASFP will nominate members to review applications together and award the Andrea Atkinson Scholarship.

The Saskatchewan Section of the CIF-IFC along with ASFP reserves the right to publish the recipient's name and photo.