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Monday, November 23, 2015

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Scholarships foster leadership in STEM fields

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Tuesday October 27, 2015

By Craig Leroux, Senior Communications Officer

Queen's University is proud to count four recipients of the 2015 Schulich Leader Scholarships among the members of its first-year undergraduate class. The national scholarship program recognizes deserving students across Canada and helps to build leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"The Schulich Leader Scholarship program is highly competitive and Queen's is proud to have these four outstanding students in the first-year class this fall," says Ann Tierney, Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs. "They are among the 50 recipients across Canada who were selected from more than 1,250 nominees. On behalf of the university, I would like to congratulate them on their hard work and remarkable achievements."

The Queen's recipients of the 2015 Schulich Leader Scholarships are Sandra Chan of Calgary AB, Mary Kathleen Hickox of Stratford PEI, Sandra Smeltzer of Harrow ON, and Lin Wei Tung of Chilliwack BC.

"Being awarded the Schulich Leader Scholarship has meant the world to me," says Ms. Chan, who is a graduate of Calgary's Webber Academy and studying in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. "It has opened the door for me to explore a field of study that I am passionate about at a prestigious university away from home."



Queen's 2015 Schulich Leader Scholars are (clockwise from top left): Sandra Chan from Calgary AB, who is studying in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science; Mary Kathleen Hickox from Stratford PEI, who is in her first year of a Bachelor of Science (Honours) program; Lin Wei Tung of Chilliwack BC, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in the Faculty of Arts and Science; and Sandra Smeltzer of Harrow ON, who is enrolled in a Bachelor of Science in Engineering.

Created in 2011 by Canadian business leader and philanthropist Seymour Schulich, this annual scholarship program encourages promising high school graduates to pursue higher education and careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Now in its fourth year, 170 students from across the country are Schulich Leader Scholars, and have received \$11 million in support. Awards for students studying in engineering are valued at \$80,000 and awards for other STEM areas of study are valued at \$60,000.

“Fostering leadership in STEM fields is vital to Canada’s economic prosperity,” said Seymour Schulich. “It is immensely important to invest in the next generation of technology innovators as they develop and hone their minds and skills to contribute to our national and global community. Every year, our mission is to support outstanding students in pursuit of their dreams”.

The nomination period for the 2016 Schulich Leader Scholarships competition is now open. High schools, secondary schools and CEGEP’s across Canada have until Feb. 2, 2016 to select their scholarship nominees. The student nominees then have until Feb. 23, 2016 to submit their application. To learn more about the Schulich Leader Scholarships, [visit their website](#).

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