



## Renfrew Collegiate Institute student receives prestigious U of T scholarship

NEV May 02, 2018 by [Tiffany Lepack](#) Renfrew Mercury

Renfrew Collegiate Institute's (RCI) Eli Scott has earned a Schulich Leader Scholarship from the University of Toronto (U of T).

She is one of only 25 engineering students across Canada to receive the scholarship, which is for a student entering an engineering program of study and is \$25,000 per year for four years of study.

The acceptance letter states "your academic and personal achievements have earned you a well-deserving place among the university's most outstanding new students."

In December, it was also announced the 18 year-old student was a finalist for the Loran Scholars Foundation scholarship, as a finalist she was eligible to receive \$5,000 to support her first year away at school.

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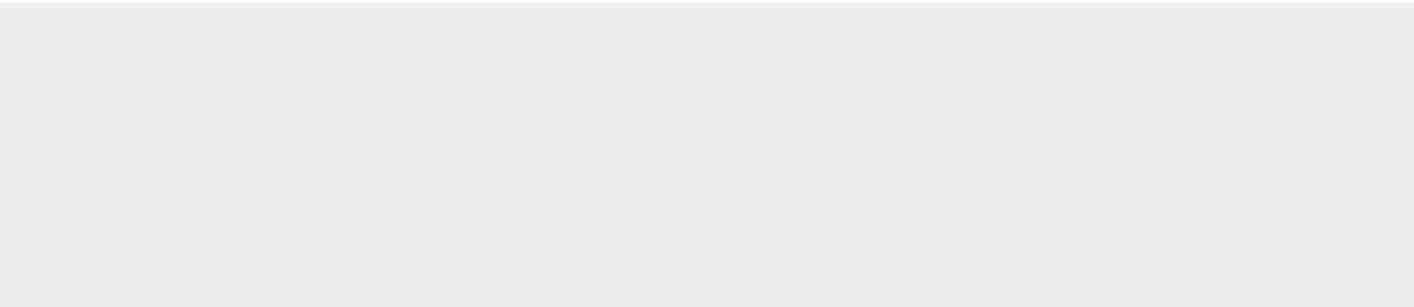
Scott was nominated by the school in February and had to write a couple essays for this new scholarship. She says being a Loran finalist also really helped her.

She wasn't expecting the acceptance letter on April 16 when she was just checking her email for her basketball schedule.

"It was just there, it was pretty exciting and humbling," said Scott. "It gives me a huge advantage of going away. It's very gratifying and an acknowledgement that hard work does pay off."

The Grade 12 student is very involved at RCI with the Social Interaction Program, this year helping to organize it. She has played basketball and hockey for the last four years with the school.

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She plans on studying engineering science at U of T and hasn't quite decided what she wants to do when she is finished her post-secondary education.

"Hopefully something that can help those in need — making things more accessible for those with special needs," said Scott.

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The Schulich Scholarship is based on students pursuing science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) subjects and it is a field in which she definitely encourages young girls to get involved.

"In general the STEM fields are growing with technology developing," said Scott. "For girls and women, they can contribute

different ideas from a different perspective.”

As to why she gravitated to the STEM field she points out her parents Jeff Scott and Kim Acres are both English teachers.

“I am extremely proud to see Eli rewarded for her consistent academic motivation,” said Acres in an email. “Despite the pressures of adolescence and life, Eli has never let her academics take the back seat, often-working hours each night on homework and assignments. She is also a proud Raider. I am excited for the future she is creating for herself.”

Overall she is both excited and nervous about her future.

“It’s a little bit of pressure. It’s big and new,” Scott admitted. “You try and push yourself as far as you can, you start with as much gusto as you can manage.”

Scott says her four years at RCI have been really important to her.

“Like every teen I’ve had challenges but RCI has been very supportive,” said Scott. “I know I would not have been able to get these scholarships without the passionate teachers here. The teachers want me to succeed with a deeper learning and want us all to succeed in the future.”



by [Tiffany Lepack](#)

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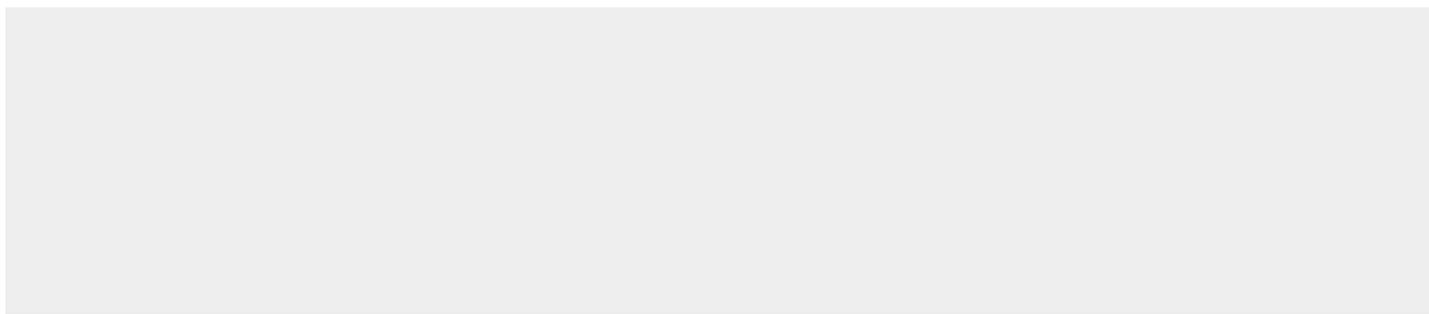
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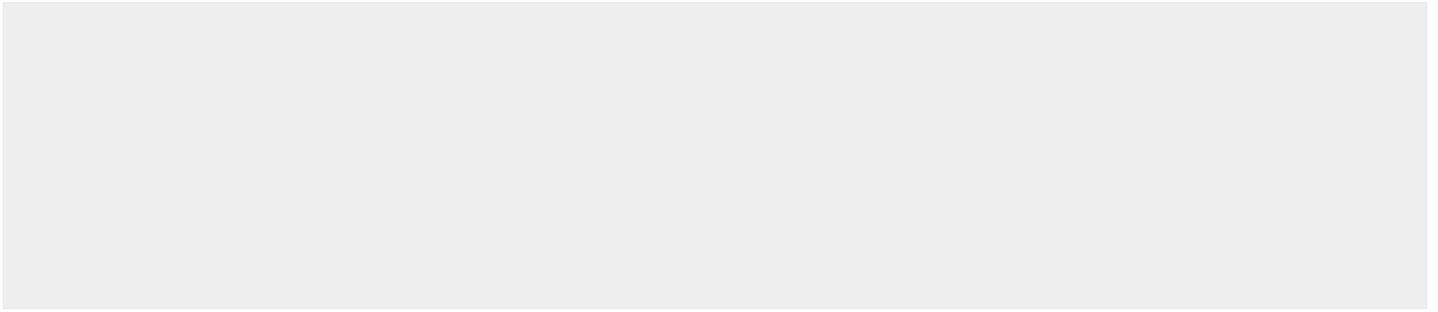
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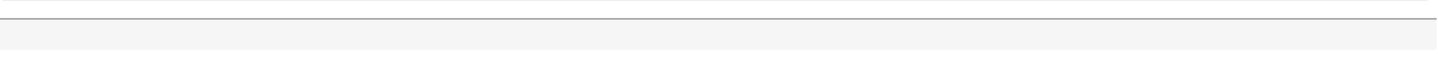
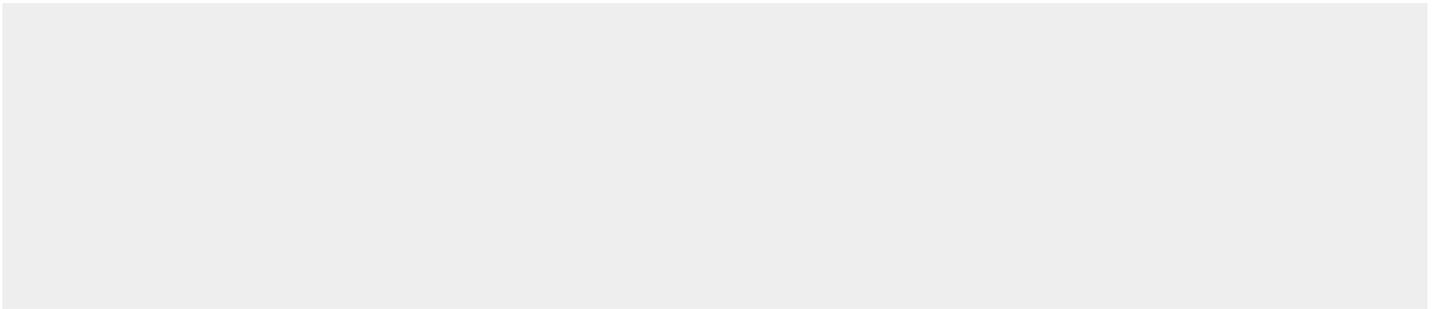
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