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The prestigious Schulich award is one of the most generous and competitive scholarships available to Canadian students. This year, there were 1,147 nominees from across Canada. Of these, 54 applied to the U of M, and engineering student, Alexander Czehryn is one of only 2 that were selected.

The young leader is known for his unshakable positive spirit, and for inspiring others to give back. Alex dreams of saving lives. He says much of his inspiration comes from watching his father cope with hemophilia. His long term goal is to be a tissue engineer.

He remembers stories of when his dad was young and there were very few treatments for the symptoms of his disease. Alex says he sees how research has dramatically improved his dad's treatment options, and he sees tissue engineering as a way to help people with conditions like his dad's.

"Tissue engineering is a new frontier so there's still a lot of research being done and I want to be a part of that," says Alex. "I want to be a part of creating solutions for the future."

His 99 per cent average upon graduation from the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute certainly suggests that he has the potential to achieve his dreams.

Alex is incredibly grateful to receive the Schulich scholarship and is excited to participate in campus clubs and expand his horizons at the University of Manitoba.

"I really want to live up to this scholarship and use it well," says Alex. "I will take my course seriously and excel in everything I do."

The four-year award goes to 40 students per year from 20 eligible Canadian universities and is designated for students pursuing undergraduate studies in STEM subjects: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Recipients in the field of engineering are awarded \$80,000.

This is the third year in a row that two upcoming U of M first-year students have received this award.

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