**Central Okanagan Foundation’s**

**Volunteer Spirit Scholarship Fund**

**Application**

In celebration of Central Okanagan Foundation’s 40th Anniversary in 2017, the Volunteer Spirit Scholarship Fund was created. This scholarship celebrates the spirit of volunteerism throughout the Central Okanagan and leaves a lasting legacy, enabling our communities to flourish today, tomorrow, and forever.

The Central Okanagan Foundation **Volunteer Spirit Scholarship Fund** offers financial support to a current resident of the Central Okanagan region who is actively engaged in substantial volunteering either in a Canadian community or internationally. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist with accredited post-secondary education.

The Central Okanagan Foundation, in alignment with our Vision and Mission, welcomes applications from organizations serving under-represented groups including, ​but not limited to: ​Indigenous, Metis, Black, People of Colour, refugee, newcomer and immigrant persons, gender and sexually diverse, and persons with diverse-abilities.

**Application Deadline: March 22. 2024**

**Two, $3,000 scholarships will be awarded.**

Eligibility:

* Resides in the Central Okanagan (Peachland to Lake Country)
* Actively engaged in substantial volunteering
* Applicants must already be accepted into a program of studies at the post-secondary level
* Applicant must use the funds within 1 year of receipt of approval of the scholarship
* Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the accredited post-secondary institution

Please note: Canada Revenue Agency lists accredited post-secondary institutions as charities. To check if your post-secondary institution is eligible, please click [here](https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/hacc/srch/pub/dsplyBscSrch?request_locale=en).

Along with answering the questions below, please include:

* Three support letters from organizations/individuals attesting to your unpaid community involvement/volunteer work. These letters may speak to your current and/or past volunteer involvements.

Application Process: Please email an electronic copy of application in word or pdf format to**:** **abbie@centralokanaganfoundation.org**

NB *Only award recipients will be notified.*

Guidelines:

* Answer every question
* Please use a 12-point font and follow the maximum word count
* Letters of reference **must be** dated, signed and on letterhead
	+ NB Certificates awarded for volunteering will not be accepted as letters of reference

Tips:

Take time to reflect on the following questions before you complete the application:

* Who have you helped — and how — through your volunteering?
* What skills have you developed through your volunteering?
* How has volunteering influenced your plans for the future?
* Have someone proofread your application before submitting.

If you have any questions, please call 250-861-6160 and ask for the Manager of Grants & Community Initiatives

**Thank you for your commitment to volunteerism and for applying for the Central Okanagan Foundation Volunteer Spirit Scholarship!**

**Central Okanagan Foundation’s**

**Volunteer Spirit Scholarship**

**Application**

Date (m/d/yr):

Name:

Email address:

Phone number:

Address:

City & Province:

Postal Code:

1. Summarize your volunteerism in the Central Okanagan and/ or other communities in which you have lived or visited.

Please complete the table below to a maximum of 10 organizations:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization (Name & location)** | **Volunteer Role** | **Start Date**  | **End Date**  |
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1a. Please provide a brief description of the activities and responsibilities for each of the volunteer roles listed above. (max 100 words each)

1. How has volunteering in the roles listed above benefitted you **and** the community? (max 500 words)
2. What are your future goals for your volunteer involvements? (max 100 words)
3. Other than time, what are the biggest challenges you have faced in pursuing your volunteering? (max 150 words)
4. Please provide the details of your post-secondary education for the upcoming school year

Educational Institution Name:

Program Name:

 (Program must consist of a minimum 100 class time hours)

1. If you receive the Central Okanagan Foundation Volunteer Spirit Scholarship, how will the funds help you continue with your education? (max 300 words)

Please email an electronic copy of application in word or pdf format to**:** abbie@centralokanaganfoundation.org