

# Ralph Akiwenzie Scholarship

## Terms of Reference and Guidelines

### OVERVIEW

This scholarship is named for a past Chief of our community, who was an educator and a leader. Ralph Akiwenzie dedicated his life to the community of Neyaashiinigiing, and preserving the Ojibway language.

### BEFORE YOU APPLY

Check your eligibility before you begin the application process.

You are eligible only if all of the following boxes apply to you:

- You are a Band member of Chippewas of Nawash. Please provide a copy of your status card, both sides.
- You have met the college and/or university entry requirements, and are applying to any Canadian college or university, and are working towards your diploma, undergraduate degree, Master's, PhD or Native Language Course/Diploma.

Each scholarship covers up to \$3,000 or 80% of the subsidy costs, whichever is less, and is renewable annually, based on reasonable progress toward the completion of an undergraduate degree or diploma. You **MUST** apply each year. If you were a successful candidate in the past, you must submit your receipt(s) and a copy of your grades to be eligible to reapply for the scholarship.

Be sure you understand the scope of the scholarship; start early and submit early.

It takes a lot of time to prepare all of the required information (including getting school transcripts, reference letter and writing the one-page essay); if you submit your application package early, we can check to see if you are missing anything and call you to get it in before the deadline.

**PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION** Fill out your application form using a computer or black or blue pen only. Attachments should be typewritten.

Provide as much detail as possible on this application, and remember that the one-page essay attachment is crucial if you are to be considered for a Ralph Akiwenzie Scholarship. Those judging your application can only know you through the information you provide to them. Do not submit your application incomplete. Ensure you have all required information and attachments by reviewing the application checklist. You are welcome to send photographs or additional certificates or other information if you wish, however you must understand that they cannot be returned to you.

### AFTER YOU APPLY

You may want to call the office before the deadline to make sure your application has arrived and is complete. Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education - 519-534-0882.

Check your current address – if you move, inform us immediately or else you run the risk of not being contacted regarding your application status.

### Awarding of the Scholarship

The Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education office is only responsible for administering the applications process. This means that we accept the applications, and distribute copies of the applications to all members of the Ralph Akiwenzie Scholarship Selection Committee.

Gather all of the required attachments and send together as one application package rather than separately, making sure to include all of the following:

- Completed Application Form**
- A copy of your status card front and back**
- Copy of your acceptance letter or conditional offer**
- Official Latest School Transcript**
- One-Page Essay Attachment with your Achievements, Aspirations and Personal Support**
- One Letter of Reference**

**Make a photocopy of your application if possible, to keep in case your application gets lost in the mail.**

Mail, fax, courier or email your completed application package to the address below well in advance of the deadline. The complete application package must be received by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

All material must be submitted to:

**Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Board of Education, 6 Harbour Road, Neyaashiinigiing, Ontario, N0H 2T0 or [nawashed.postsec@gbtel.ca](mailto:nawashed.postsec@gbtel.ca)** or faxed to 519 534-5138.

The Ralph Akiwenzie Scholarship Selection Committee manages the review and selection process, and is an independent committee comprised of, three Board trustees, two Board staff and a minimum of one community member or member of the late Chief Akiwenzie's family.

The selection committee will base its decision on:

- Achievements (how you got where you are today)
- Aspirations, educational and other (where you want to get to)
- Plans (how you intend to get there)

Successful applicants are notified directly by telephone and or email, by June 30<sup>th</sup>.