



# The WESTLANDER

The Official Newsletter of The Westland Foundation

## Message from THE FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

**Dear Donors and Friends of the Westland Foundation,**

Thanks to your generous support, I am pleased to tell you that for the 2015 – 2016 academic year, we provided scholarships to 88 post-secondary students with a total value of \$64,907. Gifts to the Westland Foundation Education Fund allow us, as a community, to transform the lives of Inner Winnipeg students.

This year’s success brings the number of students supported by Westland Foundation donors to 430! Scholarships awarded since 2009 total \$244,000 and our combined Endowment Fund Balance has reached an impressive \$1.8 million.

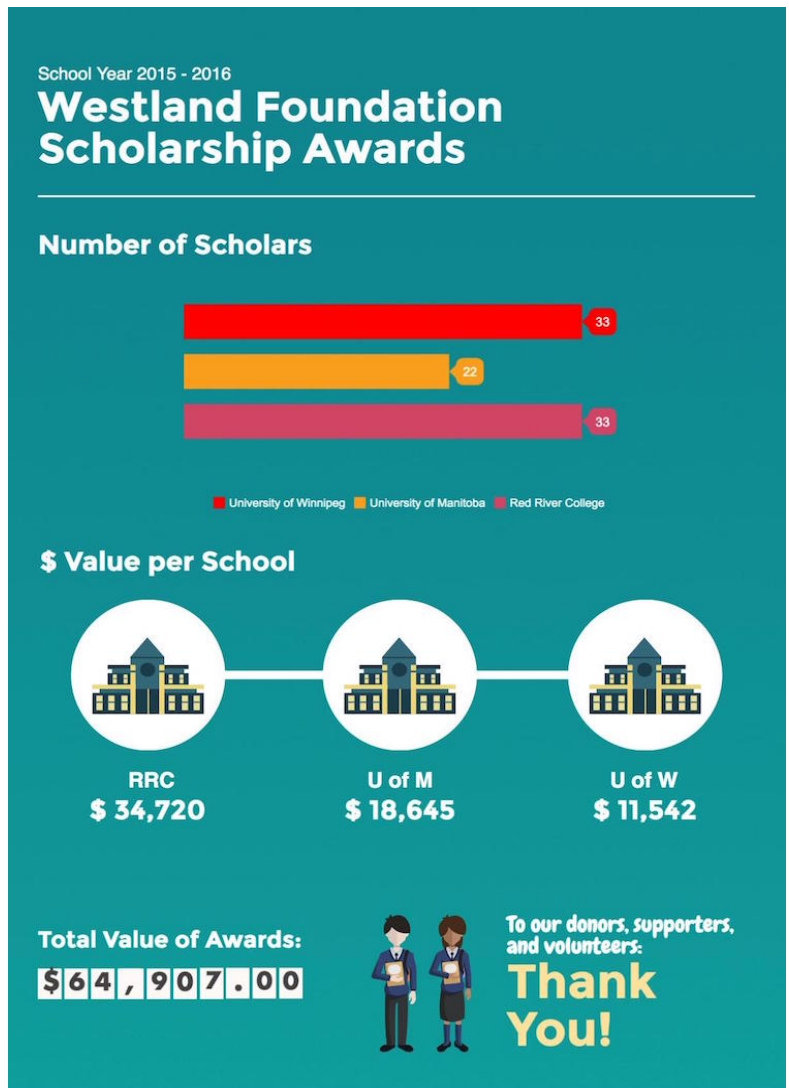
Your support demonstrates a belief in higher education and a belief in our Westland Scholars, who continue to prove that with a little encouragement and a reminder that the community cares, anything is possible.

On behalf of the Westland Foundation Board of Directors, I’d like to welcome Elba Haid and Ellen Olfert to our Honorary Board, we are grateful for their commitment of time and expertise. I’d also like to welcome Marilyn Camaclang to our team as the Communications and Development Coordinator.

We are looking forward to another year of exciting developments at the Westland Foundation. Thank you for continued support!

Sincerely,

**John Prystanski**



### In this Issue:

- Page 2** Welcome to The Team  
Get to Know our Most Recent Honourary Board Member
- Page 3** Meet The Westland Scholars
- Page 4** Save the Date!  
We're Back on Facebook!

## Welcome TO THE TEAM

We're happy to have Elba Haid and Ellen Olfert as the newest members of our Honourary Board!

**Ellen Olfert** retired in 2011, after 17 years as the Executive Director of SAFE Workers of Tomorrow, and is currently a co-partner in Quest Research and Consulting. Throughout her career and into retirement, she has been active as a community activist, having served on a number of non-profit boards of directors.

**Elba Haid** is the President and CEO of Realcare Inc., a healthcare business providing staffing relief to facilities and healthcare services to private clients.

Thank you Elba and Ellen for your strong support of education for all Inner Winnipeg youth.

## Get to Know OUR MOST RECENT HONOURARY BOARD MEMBER

Elba Haid has been the President and CEO of Realcare Inc. since 1995. She's the President and CEO of Haidco Developments and former owner of Sutton Realty.

An active member of the community, she served on many boards including the Manitoba Theatre Centre, CNIB, Historic Building Advisory Board and the Women's World Finance Board. Currently, she's involved with the Manitoba Opera Board, the Winnipeg Symphony Advisory Board, the Advisory Board for the University of Winnipeg Global College and sits on the Capital Campaign Cabinet of the Winnipeg Art Gallery – Inuit Art Centre. She's also on the executive of the Women of Winnipeg.

Haid has received the Heritage Winnipeg Award for Excellence for the adaptive reuse of Western Glove Building. Through International Women's Day Manitoba, she was recognized as one of seven women entrepreneurs advancing women in our province. Haid has also received nominations for the Manitoba Women Entrepreneur of the Year, Rotman Woman Canadian Entrepreneur of the Year and a Certificate of Recognition International Centre of Winnipeg and Immigrants Employment Assistance Services.

She was introduced to the Westland Foundation by her close friends, Carol Bellringer, Susan Thompson, Cam Mackie and Doris Mae Olton. Having attended the Westland Foundation Annual Fundraising Breakfast, she was impressed by the work of the organization and made the commitment to volunteer her time and efforts on the Honorary Board.

"Westland Foundation supports those who would better themselves and their communities through education. Education is the silver bullet. It's our platform for building a better future," she says.



*"Education is the silver bullet. It's our platform for building a better future."*

Her resounding word to students is to feed their curiosity, broaden their horizon, and try new things.

"The world needs passionate and well-rounded people. When you're done with studies, it's your responsibility to continue learning and growing," says Haid. She added that the best and most accessible way to improve oneself is to read everyday.

When asked about her legacy to the next generation, she wants to be a role model and mentor to many of the young women who are starting their future careers.

## Meet THE WESTLAND SCHOLARS

### JR, RRC

Being one of the Westland Foundation Scholars gives JR hope. Having earned a Westland Scholarship in 2015, JR was able to pursue post-secondary education and described receiving the award as having a huge weight lifted from his shoulders.

JR is enrolled at Red River College in the Digital Media Design Program. He plans to major in 3D Modelling/Animation with the hope of a promising future developing and designing video games. He says the program will prepare him to work in an ever-evolving industry with top-notch 3D artists.

JR dreams of having successful and rewarding career. Once he reaches that goal, he is committed to giving back. His wish for students in his situation is for them to receive the same support he experienced and for them to know that anything is possible.

“Pursue your dreams and understand there is a community of people who care and want to see you succeed,” says JR. “Focus on your studies and play to your strengths. No matter what, no matter what challenges you face, stay with it.”

JR extends his sincere thanks to Westland Foundation donors.

“Your contribution helps students like me who struggle day in and day out financially. The Westland Foundation Scholarship has had a positive impact in my life. Without your support, I may not be in school and would not be pursuing my dream.”

### Haven, UW

**Haven Soto** is studying Bio Chemistry at The University of Winnipeg. She credits her pursuit of a University education to the Westland Foundation and The University of Winnipeg Foundation. Soto earned a Westland Foundation Education Fund Scholarship as well as an Entrance Scholarship from UWinnipeg.

“Support from donors helps students achieve great things. They’re not just helping one student succeed, they’re helping shape a community,” says Soto. “My goal is to give back to students one day and pay it forward.”

Soto dreams of becoming a pediatrician and is looking forward to serving in smaller communities. In particular, she’d like to work in areas where children have limited access to basic healthcare.



*“Pursue your dreams and understand there is a community of people who care and want to see you succeed.”*

### Gerald, UM

**Gerald Trojillo** is pursuing a Bachelor of Science at the University of Manitoba. He hopes to land in the field of sports medicine or pediatrics.

“I’m very grateful for the support of the Westland Foundation and blessed to have people in my community who want to see me succeed,” says Trojillo.

He encourages students of all Inner Winnipeg high schools to apply for the Westland Foundation Education Scholarship.

His words of wisdom for fellow students, “There are people in our community who are willing to invest in your life and in your future, make the most of this great opportunity.”

**Save THE DATE!**

With Westland Foundation  
We're brewing something good for Winnipeg  
**Join Us!**  
**10th Fundraising  
BREAKFAST**  
Guest Speaker:  
Mayor Brian Bowman  
**\$50/ticket**  
19 May 2016, Thursday  
Doors open at 6:45 am  
Breakfast starts at 7:00 am  
RBC Convention Centre  
Winnipeg  
Primary Breakfast Sponsor:  
National Bank Financial

The 2015 Fundraising Breakfast raised over \$18,500. These dollars were matched by our post-secondary education partners for a total contribution of over \$37,000.

Help us continue to grow our alumni of Westland Scholars!

**BUY** a single ticket for **\$50**

**SPONSOR** a table of eight for **\$400**

**We're Back ON FACEBOOK!**

The Westland Foundation  
Making our future  
a little  
**brighter...**  
**Like us on Facebook**

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