

SASW Student Scholarship



Angie Pollom, Saskatoon

When the scholarship task team reviewed the applicants, the team looked at all aspects of volunteer involvement, length of membership with SASW and financial need. This year we had strong applicants for the student scholarship and they were all worthy of receiving the scholarship. The committee selected Angie Pollom as the 2009 recipient for the SASW Student Scholarship. Angie is finishing up her BSW through the Saskatoon Campus, University of Regina, and will convocate in June. She has already attained her B.A. in psychology and an advanced certificate in sociology.

The scholarship task team selected Angie's application based on a number of factors including:

- Two year membership as a student with SASW
- Her involvement with the Saskatoon Social Work Students' society , including the position of vice president
 - Referring to her volunteer work with the SW student's society, Angie states in her application:
"We promote professional development and training outside of the general course work load. This term alone, between January 2009 and April 2009, I will be participating in roughly 50 hours of different professional development and training experiences."
- The majority of students can easily site financial need. Angie summarizes her situation well in the following statement:
 - "This is my third university degree and finally I have found what I was looking for, but now I will pay the price of that education. I do not come from a family with money; I grew up at the poverty line sometimes below it-raised by my single Mother. I am the first person in my family to receive a university education, let alone 3! And for that I have had to rely on student loans."
 - "The funding of a student loan and the dire housing/rental situations...forces me to work while balancing the course load of at least 4 classes, at times 5."
- Angie volunteers at SWITCH – Student Wellness Initiative Toward community Health. Her reference states:
 - "Angie engages clients, volunteers and professionals alike with integrity, respect and the utmost regard for equitable treatment, collaboration and excellence...She has a firm grasp of social work ethics and professionalism and has the ability to see issues clearly and concisely."
- Angie traveled throughout the UK, Spain and Italy for a year on a working visa. She refers to this as a good opportunity to experience other cultures and gain "insight into social welfare issues that other countries are facing and the development of globalization. It was also a great networking experience because as a budget traveller your best resource is other travellers you meet"