

Community

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Teen receives Hadfield bursary

High school graduate awarded \$2,000

By Julia Le
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Alexandria Milton has been given a bursary that will surely help her along her path to becoming a doctor.

The Milton District High School graduate, who will attend Queen's University in Kingston this fall, was recently awarded the \$2,000 Chris Hadfield Bursary.

Milton residents Eleanor and Roger Hadfield created the bursary nearly 20 years ago to recognize an exceptional student following their son's first flight into space.

It was initially created to help a student at Milton District High School, from which the astronaut graduated, but has since expanded to include all high schools in town.



Alexandria Milton is this year's recipient of the Chris Hadfield Bursary. She's seen here during a recent visit to Bangkok, Thailand.

Milton, 18, said she feels extremely honoured to be the recipient of the bursary, especially considering the prestige that comes along with it and what Hadfield has accom-

plished over his career as an astronaut.

"Chris Hadfield's involvement with the global community and extensive collaboration within the educa-

tional system makes me very proud to be the one selected to receive this scholarship," said Milton, who went through a selection process that included each local high school

nominating one student to receive the bursary.

Milton said she had the help of her high school counsellors, her family and her friends in preparing for the bursary application and a one-on-one interview with the Hadfield family.

She said she believes her experiences within Milton and around the world contributed to her receiving the bursary.

Eleanor said Milton really stood out during her interview and through the personal essay she was required to write in only 15 minutes.

"She's a tremendous girl," she said, adding that Milton really exemplified the criteria of a well-rounded student with athletic ability and good marks, particularly in English and science.

The Hadfield family always looks forward to the selection process for the bursary, Eleanor added.

"We're regarded it as a privilege to meet these young civilians," she said.

Meanwhile, Milton plans to spend the money on tuition or books as she works toward her goals of becoming a medical doctor and getting a surgical license.

"I am very grateful to be awarded such a reputable scholarship. I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hadfield for their generosity and kindness," she said.

The Hadfields also awarded a trophy to Grade 8 student Harkam Gamal of Chris Hadfield Public School — chosen by the school — for being an all-around good student with top marks in science.

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