



WINKLER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GORDON WIEBE SCHOLARSHIPS Peer-2-Peer Connector Program (PILOT PROJECT)

PURPOSE:

To provide transitional support to first year post-secondary Gordon Wiebe Scholarship recipients.

WHO QUALIFIES:

First year post - secondary Gordon Wiebe Awards recipients

WHO IS THE CONNECTOR:

Second/third year Gordon Wiebe Awards recipients

LENGTH OF COMMITMENT:

One academic year

WHY:

- To provide opportunity to connect with fellow students.
- To provide connections for Rural students moving into urban setting as they navigate new skills and situations. Eg. How to map out the new campus? Where to buy books? Routes to and from classes are just a few.

HOW (MATCHING):

- First year award recipients will be paired with returning award recipients.
- Pairs will be matched as per institution of enrollment ie. University of Manitoba with University of Manitoba, Red River College with Red River College, etc. When possible, pairings will also be made for those attending institutions outside of Winnipeg & Manitoba.
- The Winkler Community Foundation Scholarship Committee will create the pairs.

HOW (CONNECTION):

- The Connector will initiate communication with the first-year recipient.
- One (1) face-to-face meeting with the first-year recipient during the first 2 weeks of classes.
- Weekly contact made via text or email for the first 6 weeks.
- After the initial 6 weeks, contact should be once every other week until the first week of December.
- In the second semester, the Connector is asked to make contact once a month until the first week of April.
- The Connector will receive (via email or text) a \$20 coffee gift card with the intention of encouraging a personal face-to-face meeting with the first-year recipient.
- Connection may involve but not be limited to the following:
 - location of classes, cafeteria, library, student services center, faculty advisor office, bookstore, etc.

WINKLER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (WCF) SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE WILL:

- Pair first year recipients with returning recipients
- Communicate with each pair once during the first semester and once in the second semester to monitor the progress of the pilot project.
- Evaluate the merits of the pilot project and solicit thoughts on how to create a stronger program at the completion of the 2019-2020 academic year

WHAT THIS PROGRAM IS NOT:

- The purpose of this program is one of support.
- It is not a counselling service.
- We recognize there are large loads that each student carries in university.
- While this pilot project is an “extra” to their role, in no way should it become something that interferes with either students’ academic performance.
- **If situation(s) arise in which extra help is required, either student will be encouraged to seek other supports. At no time does the committee expect an individual to be put into a position of carrying situations that are beyond their expertise. This program is designed to help with basic transition needs.**

HOW WCF WILL MEASURE SUCCESS:

- Check in with students each semester to provide feedback to the scholarship committee re: pilot project experience.
- The WCF Scholarship committee will gather feedback and determine if the pilot project can carry on as an extension of the Gordon Wiebe Scholarship Mandate.

Please contact us for more information!

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