

PRINCE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE & PRINCE TOWNSHIP

pay it forward

Written by: Marc Capancioni

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Sandy Fulcher, Prince Women's Institute member

The Prince Women's Institute has a mandate – to help improve the quality of life for its community and residents by promoting personal development through education and partnerships.

A few years ago, the Institute saw an opportunity to further deliver on its mandate. The charitable organization partnered with Prince Township to establish a scholarship at Algoma U.

The Prince Women's Institute and Prince Township Scholarship Award provides \$500 annually to a first-year, full-time student who's a resident of the area township. If a first-year student does not meet this criteria, the award is made available to an upper-year student who does.

"Our goal is to build a better livelihood for our community, and we see education as a great way to do that," said Sandy Fulcher, a member of the Prince Women's Institute who previously served as the organization's President and Chair. *"That's why our members established the scholarship award at Algoma University. We wanted to give back to our community by supporting and promoting education."*

These sentiments were echoed by Prince Township. Its Council also saw the scholarship as an opportunity to give back to citizens.

"It's really important that students have support," said Peggy Greco, the township's Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk-Treasurer. *"Our Council felt that it was important to provide support to students attending Algoma University. If we can help them – even a little bit – the support goes a long way."*

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Past recipients of the Prince Women's Institute and Prince Township Scholarship Award are Graham Slater (2019) and Trista Curran (2018).

Meanwhile, to undertake its charitable work and give back to the community, the Prince Women's Institute delivers a number of programs and activities throughout the year, including bake

sales and other fundraising events. The organization is part of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, a registered charity dedicated to serving cities and townships across the country through advocacy and educational programs.

With a rich and storied history of giving back, the first Women's Institute was founded in 1897 in Stoney Creek, Ontario. Since then, the organization spread worldwide with chapters opening up in countries throughout the British Commonwealth, including the United Kingdom, South Africa, New Zealand and Zimbabwe.

To learn more about the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada please visit www.fwic.ca.

Pictured above, left to right: Margaret Christenson, Prince Women's Institute; Jennia Bannister, student recipient of the Prince Women's Institute & Prince Township Scholarship; and Peggy Greco, Prince Township.