



KEATCA

2019 Newsletter

"Everyone has the right to education [where] Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit." - Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



Mission Statement

Assist individuals facing poverty in accessing education and training at post-secondary level while advocating for policies that counter poverty and remove barriers to development through an accessible and affordable education.

About Us

At Knowledge, Education and Training, Canada (KEATCA), we advocate for a free public post-secondary education for all. The dream is rooted in the aspirations of a young immigrant man pursuing public post-secondary education in Canada in the 1970s, who only succeeded with the assistance of university grants. The dream became a reality with the support of his partner who shared his conviction and believes that public post-secondary education should be a fundamental right and free for all. This is how the KEATCA education endowment began. The early years of the grant (under a different name) were more informal in nature. In 2017, changes were made to make the grant process more structured and aimed at those who required it most. The KEATCA endowment fund is maintained by Vancity Community Foundation.



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Partnerships

We continue to partner with organizations who value the same goal as us and are working towards making public post-secondary education affordable for students. **Bright Beginnings Foundation (BBF)** are supporting two students – one at Simon Fraser University and the other at Vancouver Community College. Our partner Bright Beginning Foundation (BBF) succinctly explain:



“Everyone who lives, works or visits Surrey, BC, Canada are witness to the effects of poverty. Every day they see the ways that financial challenges impact lives. Many of Surrey’s students live in generational poverty. Poverty that persists from one generation to the next because no one in the family had the means to break the cycle of poverty. Many of these students have scholastic aptitude but do not have the financial ability to attain a post-secondary education that would provide them with a well-paid occupation. Tremendous potential is wasted if these students are not given the chance to succeed.”

MOSAIC is a recently partnered organization with KEATCA. The support worker of the recent grant recipient wrote:



“[the KEATCA grant enabled TK] to learn a lot of things that improved her talent and her skill. The positive feedback she received from both her teachers and co-participants has been instrumental in building her self-confidence and building her self-esteem. Through her experience, she has been gradually coming out of her shell and has been exploring various possibilities life has to offer. We are very thankful for the wonderful work that you do!” – LB, MOSAIC

If you are a Canadian registered charitable organization supporting the mandate of education, or a business/union wanting to sponsor a student, please contact us at info@keatca.org.



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Ongoing Grants

The **Bala and Ram Jakhu Grant** at the Air and Space Institute, McGill University, Montreal: In 2019, a grant of \$2,500 was provided to a student from India, who is completing her Masters in Air and Space Law and in the final stages of writing her thesis focused on the regulation of environmental impact of space activities.



“This grant has given me the opportunity to conduct highly specialized research in space law at the IASL,” - recipient of the 2019 Bala and Ram Jakhu Grant

The **Daljit and Charan Gill (former CEO of Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS)) Grant**: The grant in the sum of \$5,000 was provided to a student at the University of Regina pursuing her Master of Arts in health administration.

“I am a learner for life, and am so grateful for organizations such as KEATCA who celebrate knowledge and bring community together through awareness as they understand that finances should not be a barrier to access education and our passion to be great in our field of work.” - SG

KEATCA is in process of adding a third grant in the name of The Late Mrs. Dewayani Gajanan Pundit in the field of education. These grants are earmarked for students from Canada, Ethiopia or India where Mrs. Pundit lived and worked.



2019 Progress and Challenges

In September 2019, KEATCA started a petition on Change.org to make public post-secondary education affordable and accessible. The aim of the petition is to garner public support and show policymakers the needs of the community for an affordable and accessible post-secondary education. To increase advocacy on advancing affordable and accessible post-secondary education, KEATCA was keen to introduce a walk-a-thon targeting schools. Initial discussions with partners were positive and plans were underway for organizing a walk-a-thon. However, the activity could not be undertaken due to numerous reasons. We are brainstorming for new activities in 2020.

KEATCA's Financial Overview

Total number of grants given: 24

Total amount in grants disseminated:

\$46,900

(money from investment income)

Grants given in 2019 : 4

Total amount of grants in 2019 :

\$11,000





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Donations

To counter poverty until policies to this effect are changed, we are asking you to donate generously and make education and training accessible. All your donations, no matter the size, are greatly appreciated and can either be made through the KEATCA website or the Vancity Community Foundation portal. Donations of \$20 or more will be issued Canadian tax-deductible receipts.

Volunteers

KEATCA appreciates the role of its volunteers. They have helped us identify recipients and donors, advised and evaluated grantees, provided tech support and web maintenance, donated and otherwise helped in numerous ways. KEATCA sincerely thanks everyone who has contributed to the success of this endeavor.

*Thank You et
Merci*



Vancity
Community Foundation