

## HAROLD CARDINAL ESSAY PRIZE FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

**Donor:** Athabasca University  
**Value:** 1st: \$3000, 2nd: \$1500, 3rd: \$500  
**Number:** One prize for each place

### Description of Award

These prizes are awarded annually in recognition of outstanding achievement by Athabasca University (AU) undergraduate students for written work on the preservation of Aboriginal and treaty rights. An original essay formally submitted for coursework from any AU undergraduate program, which was marked or graded are considered eligible for submission. The original essay must be properly documented and formatted. Applicants must be of Aboriginal descent and must also be able to demonstrate commitment to Aboriginal rights, a history of advocacy for Aboriginal people, and contribution to community, law, politics, or government as they pertain to Aboriginal people.

*Harold Cardinal (Cree, Sucker Creek First Nation) was a visionary and advocate for Aboriginal peoples in Canada. He was an author, a teacher, a lawyer and a scholar. His books "The Unjust Society: The Tragedy of Canada's Indians" and "The Rebirth of Canada's Indians" were pivotal to the understanding of Aboriginal/Non Aboriginal relations upon their release in 1969 and 1977, respectively.*

### Conditions of Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply for these scholarships:

- Be a current AU undergraduate student.
- Be in good academic standing.
- Include an original essay formally submitted for course work from any AU undergraduate program, which was marked or graded.
- Has not been a previous recipient of the Harold Cardinal Essay Prize for Aboriginal Students.
- Be of Aboriginal descent as defined by the applicant's Indigenous nation of origin.
- Submission of the fully completed application form and required reference letter to the AU Student Awards Unit.

### Application Instructions

- Submit your application here: Student Awards Application System Or navigate back to award listing to submit.
- Submission of an original essay, must be marked or graded from an AU course.
- Receipt of Reference Letter as instructed in section D of this application form.

### Selection Criteria

The Harold Cardinal Essay Prize will be awarded to students who are able to demonstrate the following;

- Commitment to Aboriginal peoples and their rights.
- A history of advocacy for Aboriginal people.
- Contribution to Indigenous community, law, politics, or government.
- High quality original essay.
- A community reference.

### Application Submission Deadline

December 31st

### Award Notification

Successful applicants should expect to be notified of their award status within one month of the selection committee convening to choose recipients.

### Questions?

Visit the AU Awards website at: <http://www.athabascau.ca/registrar/studawrds.php> Call toll free 1-800-788-9041 ext, 6197 or 780-675-6197 Email [awardsinfo@athabascau.ca](mailto:awardsinfo@athabascau.ca) with your inquiries.



## APPLICATION FORM FOR HAROLD CARDINAL ESSAY PRIZE FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

Before completing this application form, please ensure that you meet all the eligibility criteria and that you can demonstrate the qualities of the selection criteria.

### A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Athabasca University Student Identification Number:

Social Insurance Number:

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Name:

Mailing Address:

Mailing Address 2:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Country:

Primary Telephone Number:

Alternate Telephone Number:

Email Address:

### B. CURRENT POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION INFORMATION

Complete the information requested below. Information will be verified with your student record, and other sources, if required.

In what AU undergraduate program are you enrolled?

What is your cumulative program GPA?  
"Preview" to view your GPA)

(Go to MyAU portal, click on "Request Transcript", click on



### **C. COMMITMENT TO INDIGENOUS RIGHTS and CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY**

Use the space below to describe activities in which you have participated that demonstrate (or prove) your acceptance and participation within your Aboriginal community. Include the name of the organizations(s), your role and responsibilities, length of service, your weekly or monthly time commitment and briefly why it's important to you.

Using one or two specific examples from your experiences you shared that describe how your involvement has developed your personal history of advocacy for Aboriginal people.

Describe your contributions to community, law, politics, or government as they pertain to Aboriginal people.

Describe an experience from your contribution to community activities in which you made a difference. Explain what was accomplished, your role, and what you learned and might do differently.



#### D. SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL ESSAY

This award requires the submission of an original essay formally submitted for course work from any AU undergraduate program, which was marked or graded.

Attach a copy of the essay to this application or email it separately to: [awardsapplication@athabascau.ca](mailto:awardsapplication@athabascau.ca) Kindly include your name and AU student ID number in the subject line.

#### E. LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This award requires a written reference letter from a Referee of your choice. The link below requires an AU student ID number to access. You will be asked to supply the award name, the Referee's first and last name, email address, phone number and type of relationship to you, i.e., academic, personal or professional etc. When submitted, our system will send your referee an email with appropriate instructions for them to complete the referee process including the reference letter document upload.

**To access the Letter of Recommendation form, please navigate back to the award listing.  
Click here: [Harold Cardinal Essay Prize for Aboriginal Students](#)**

You are strongly encouraged to alert your referee to the request that will be forthcoming. The AU Student Awards Office will not follow up on reference letter requests that are not completed.

***The reference letter must be received by the application deadline date. A missing reference letter will disqualify you.***

#### G. REQUIRED CERTIFICATION AND RELEASE

I certify that the information provided in this application and in the accompanying documentation is true, accurate and complete. I authorize the provision of any information held or to be held by Athabasca University, and others relating to my application, including but not limited to personal evaluations and transcripts, to the Student Awards Unit of Athabasca University and the Selection Committee chosen for this scholarship. I understand and accept that: (1) such information will be used by the Student Awards Unit and the bursary selection committee of Athabasca University for the purposes of selection, for statistical analysis, and to facilitate ongoing administrative correspondence with applicants, necessary to further the objective of the Athabasca University Student Awards Program and to improve selection process; (2) the Athabasca University will not release application evaluation or the results of the evaluation process, except to inform me if my application has been accepted for an award; and (3) for all questions regarding my personal information held on file by the Athabasca University, including updates thereof may reach an Athabasca University representative through the contact information provided within this package. Finally, if my application is selected for this award, I will: (1) provide a thank you letter to the Student Awards Unit of Athabasca University to be forwarded to the donor of the award.

Name of Applicant:

Date:

Your personal information is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. F-25 and the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, S.A. 2003, c. P-19.5.