

**Dr. Jacob McKay Award Recipients** – Congratulations to the 2015 Dr. Jacob McKay Award Winners

In memory of the late Dr. Jacob McKay, IAHLA established annual awards to support current and former students of BC's Indigenous adult and higher learning institutes. The four awards, in the amount of \$1,000 each, are available annually to Aboriginal students who have attended an IAHLA institute and will be continuing at the IAHLA institute or attending a BC post-secondary institution in the fall.

Big Congratulations to the four successful candidates!



*Emily Cook – Gitga'at First Nation*

Emily's goal is to complete her Associate of Arts Degree by the end of Spring 2016 and then proceed to a Bachelor of Social Work degree program, with the hopes of graduating by Spring 2018. At that time, she plans to return to the workforce as a social worker on Vancouver Island, which is her home territory.



*Cheyenne Cunningham – Katzie First Nation*

Cheyenne is attending Simon Fraser University on a full-time basis as of September 2014. She has not declared a major at this time but is leaning towards obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in First Nations studies and possibly minoring in Archaeology or International and Global Studies. She has an interest in Archaeology from her previous field work in a work experience project through her band.



*Naomi G. Jules – Tl'azt'en Nation*

Naomi is a single mother of three children, ages 16, 13, and one. She moved her children from Kamloops, B.C., to New Westminster, B.C., to attend the Native Education College where she obtained an Aboriginal

Tourism Management Diploma in July of 2012. Her educational goal is to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality Management from Vancouver Career College and then move on to a Master's of Business Administration. Naomi chose the hospitality field specifically because of her 10 plus years of experience in working with the public and belief that she has the drive to succeed within an organization in the hospitality industry.



*Pat Raphael – Syilx/Cree*

Pat is from the beautiful Okanagan Valley and is of Cree/Syilx descent. She is in college to learn her Syilx language and to further her art education. She has raised four children that are also artistically inclined. Pat's hope is to be a language teacher in the future, majoring in art with the potential of owning and running her own art gallery.