

Scholarships: a helping hand for your insurance education

Neelam Vyas is in her third year in the Business Administration and Financial Mathematics dual degree program at Wilfrid Laurier University. In June, 2017, she will graduate with an Honours Bachelor of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Financial Mathematics.

For the last two years in a row, Neelam has won one of three annually available Toronto Insurance Conference (TIC) scholarships of \$5,000 TIC brokers, partners and staff. As any student can imagine, winning a total of \$10,000 to support her education has made a world of difference to her and her family. What's more, her brother, Dhruv Vyas, also won one of these scholarships in 2013.



Neelam Vyas

As Neelam says, “The scholarships have greatly helped my family and me to finance my education. Tuition fees are always increasing for students, so winning the TIC scholarship has taken a burden off of our shoulders.”

When Neelam first applied for this scholarship, she was entering her second year at Wilfrid Laurier. She heard about the program through Philomena Comerford, President and CEO of Baird MacGregor Insurance Brokers LP. At the time, she was working there as a summer intern.

Neelam has now completed two summers as an intern at Baird MacGregor, and one at Aon Reed Stenhouse, which has exposed her to a cross-section of interesting and challenging projects. From the start, insurance was the field she was interested in pursuing. She was also already aware of what brokers do for their clients; recommending various coverages to mitigate risk and negotiating with markets to provide the broadest form of coverage at an affordable price.

What many students don't know is that, no matter what you are studying, there are multiple entry points to a terrific career in the insurance industry. There are also numerous benefits associated with the TIC Scholarship program that can have lasting positive effects for students and their families.

“The TIC Scholarship is a great opportunity to interact and connect with other professionals in the insurance industry,” says Neelam. “I highly encourage all students to apply if they are pursuing an undergraduate degree and have an interest in insurance.”

To find out more about the TIC scholarship and other scholarship programs, visit www.insuranceinstitute.ca/scholarships.

Written by Sheila Reesor, TIC Executive Director