

TIC Scholarships: Imagine what a difference this could make

Imagine what it would be like if your son or daughter won a \$5,000 scholarship. Now imagine how it would be if *both* your son *and* your daughter each won a \$5,000 scholarship!

That's what happened to the Scodellers in 2019. Both Madeleine and Bradley Scodeller submitted applications to the TIC Scholarship Program last September, and won two of the three awards offered.

When Madeleine received the news that she had won, she was beginning her fourth year at Wilfrid Laurier University. She was thrilled, but afraid to tell Bradley because she assumed that if she won, it meant that he hadn't. About an hour later, she found out that her brother had also been chosen. Neither of them could believe it. The entire family was ready to celebrate!

At the time, Bradley had started his second year in the Bachelor of Business Administration Program, also at Wilfrid Laurier, after working as a summer student with Allianz Canada. Madeleine was majoring in Biology with a concentration in Cell Molecular Biology and Genetics and a minor in Chemistry and Psychology. For three summers, she worked as an intern for Northbridge Insurance.

For both, working on the insurance side rounded out an already strong understanding of the industry from the brokerage side. For the last 21 years, their father has been a broker with TIC member firm; Marsh Canada Limited. That's how they each found out about this opportunity. And it certainly paid off!

Just imagine what an enormous help this income was with covering tuition, student loans and rent. That alone is incredible. Even more, as Bradley says: "Applying to this program has the potential to create huge opportunities and important connections throughout the industry."

Madeleine agrees, but notes that she might not have applied if not for her father's encouragement. "Anyone can apply," she says. "The process is actually quite easy. As long as you have good grades and extracurricular experience, you would have a good chance of becoming the next recipient!"



Since the COVID-19 pandemic, this year, Madeleine has completed her degree successfully, but she had a summer contract lined up with HUB International HKMB Limited that was cancelled. She's now applying to Master degree programs and searching for full-time work.

Pre COVID-19, Bradley was placed in a co-op sequence for his third year, and scheduled to study at Wilfrid Laurier all summer. Given the current conditions, he is now enrolled in a full-time remote learning semester. "I was extremely fortunate," he says, "as COVID-19 has had little impact in the pursuit of my degree and career."

In the end, both Madeleine and Bradley have adapted and persevered in spite of it all. Both continue to pursue their interests and strive for their goals — thanks in no small part to the support and encouragement of family, friends and mentors along the way, and the TIC Scholarship Program.

The TIC scholarship program is proudly managed by the Insurance Institute of Ontario. To find out more, visit <https://www.ticbrokers.ca/initiatives/tic-scholarship-program/>.