



KYLIE FLYNN - LORAN SCHOLAR 2020



What is the Loran Scholarship?

In partnership with universities, donors and volunteers across the country, we're investing in the future of Canada. We offer the country's largest and most Comprehensive four-year undergraduate award (valued at \$100,000) to young Canadians on the basis of character, service and the promise of leadership.

To find the next generation of leaders for Canada, we look beyond the transcript and find the promise of character: integrity, courage, compassion, determination and a high level of personal autonomy.

"In a society that believes so strongly in tangible rankings and ratings, we colour outside the lines."

How did you first hear about this scholarship?

My mom first told me about it. A Loran alumni has the opportunity to recognize a teacher that influenced/inspired them in high school. My mom received this from a past student & Loran scholar. My guidance counselor also encouraged me to apply.

This is a very prestigious and competitive scholarship. How rigorous was application the process?

It was a lot of work. There was an initial application - mostly mini-essays on a bunch of topics. Then I was invited to do an initial regional interview at the University of Saskatchewan. The panel was made up of a bunch of different people - the CEO of SaskPower, an Engineering Head at the U of S - very diverse group. In January, I was invited to a second national interview in Toronto with 88 other applicants. I had 6 interviews over the course of the weekend, arriving at the interview building at 8 am and not returning back to the hotel as late as 10 pm.

So what kind of questions were you asked in the interview?

Applicants are limited to a word count with the essays. So for the most part, the board just wanted me to expand on those essays. But there were a few questions that were unexpected. The questions were guided towards what you plan to do in your future and how your past leadership experiences will prove your capability to achieve your goals.

How and when did you find out you were awarded the scholarship?

The panel determines the successful candidates at the end of the weekend. Candidates have the option to select a time slot for notification of the decision. I asked to be notified an hour after my plane landed in Saskatoon. So it was a tense trip home!

Who were you with and how did you react when you found out you got it?

I had locked myself into my bedroom around the time I was expecting the phone call with the big news. I wanted to be able to process the information, whether good or bad, on my own first. As soon as I heard the caller say "I'm calling with very exciting news..." I ran upstairs to my mom and we celebrated together.

You had a choice to attend 25 participating Canadian Universities with your \$100K scholarship. Why did you choose uOttawa?

It is one of the few bilingual schools that offers lectures in French and English, so it will help me maintain my bilingualism. I was also born in Ottawa, so I have some family and friends that I can rely on for a support system.

5,194 APPLICANTS
in 2019/20

500+ STUDENTS
interviewing in 21 regions to select

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Loran Scholars

Congratulations

Kylie!

For more information on the Loran Scholarship, please visit the website at www.loranscholar.ca