

Remarks

**Judith Sullivan-Corney**

**Deputy Minister Aboriginal Affairs**

**Presentation**

**Donald Marshall Senior Memorial Scholarships**

**Treaty Day**

**Monday, Oct. 1, 2007**

**Halifax Marriott Harbourfront**

**Halifax**

It is my great honour to introduce the Donald Marshall Scholarship Fund Award winners.

This year we have two recipients, both of whom want to become teachers. One wants to improve the education system in her community and the other hopes to work with children who need speech therapy.

Florence Dennis of Eskasoni First Nation graduated this year from St. Francis Xavier University with a Bachelor of Education Degree and plans to continue her studies, focusing on Aboriginal education. Her ambition is to contribute to the improvement of the education system in her community.

The biggest challenge for Florence was going back to school after leaving at the age of 16 while still in grade nine. In 2000 she went to Cape Breton University as a mature student after getting her high school equivalency degree. Four years later she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Despite her academic workload, Florence still finds time for volunteer activities such as fund raising for sports teams in Eskasoni and volunteering at the community school.

I now call upon Florence Dennis to accept her award and ask Chief Morley Googoo to make the presentation.

The second recipient of the Donald Marshall Senior Memorial Scholarship is Christina Fraser, also of Eskasoni First Nation. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree with honours and distinction from Dalhousie University and is working toward a Master of Science Degree in Speech Language Pathology.

Christina wants to work to improve the health of Aboriginal Canadians and especially those children with speech problems in her community.

As a single parent she has had many challenges in her life, but has found time to volunteer with a program called LINKS where she assists school age children with literacy problems. She also continues to be very active in community athletics and represented the province in the 2002 National Aboriginal Indigenous Games.

I now call upon Christina to accept the award and ask Chief Morley Googoo to make the presentation.

Thank you.

-0-

