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News Release

Community Foundation Announces Belleisle Valley Health Centre Fund Scholarship 2009 Winners

The Greater Saint John Community Foundation, which has been entrusted with a scholarship fund derived from the sale of the former Belleisle Valley Health Centre Inc., is announcing that three winners have been selected for 2009-10. The \$60,000 permanently endowed fund, annually supports scholarships, valued at \$1,000 each, for graduates of Belleisle Regional High School (BRHS) entering a post-secondary institution the following fall. On behalf of the group, Board President of the Health Centre, Brian T. R. Teed extends congratulations to this year's winners: Jessica Cookson and Jordan Kennedy of Kars and Kirby Morrill of Belleisle, all of the Belleisle Regional High School's Class of 2009.

Jordan Kennedy is studying Science at UNB-Saint John. He delivered the Salutation at the graduation ceremony. Jordan is a talented musician who was very active in coffee houses and musicals while at BRHS. He had a lead in last year's musical "Little Shop of Horrors". He was President of the Class of 2009, played basketball, and was co-editor of the yearbook.

Jessica Cookson is studying for a Bachelor of Nursing at UNB-Saint John. Her interest in this field was sparked as a result of her part-time employment at a special care home and through her volunteer hours at the Saint John Regional Hospital. Jessica played basketball throughout her years at BRHS. She also participated in a six month Quebec-N.B. student exchange program.

Kirby Morrill is attending UNB Fredericton, where she is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science program. She hopes to become a pharmacist. She delivered the class history at graduation and she was involved in a number of sports at BRHS: rugby, soccer and basketball. She was co-editor of the school's yearbook and participated in a six month Quebec-N.B student exchange program. The selection is made annually by the senior administrative staff of the High School, based on a combination of academic success, community leadership and financial need. Preference is given to students pursuing studies in the health care field. Applications for the scholarship can be directed to the Principal, Belleisle Regional High School.

"Many groups appreciate the Community Foundation's flexibility and ability to receive funds for permanent endowment while relieving them of the management responsibilities and ensuring their identity is retained even when they may be winding down their organization's affairs" stated

Cheryl M.G. Robertson, Community Foundation Chair. She commended the supporters of the Belleisle Valley Health Centre Inc. as generous benefactors for graduates of the Belleisle area, pursuing post-secondary education.

This year the foundation is supporting awards valued over \$15,000 from several permanently endowed funds and gifts including: The Dr. Malcolm Somerville Bursaries in Business, The Saint John Law Society Bursary, the Cook Family Bursary, Supersteel Band Bursary, C.N. Wilson scholarships, the Margaret Willis Awards, the Canadian Federation of University Women-Saint John scholarships, the Old Ladies Home Fund bursaries, the Saint John Country Music Week Legacy Fund scholarship, the Garfield Meltzer-Jewish War Veterans Scholarship Fund and the Florence Christie Bursary.

The Greater Saint John Community Foundation serves as a trustee for charitable, educational and cultural purposes. It administers funds given by public-spirited individuals for the benefit of the people of this area. Since 1976, the foundation's assets have grown to approximately \$8 M. In 2008, it donated in excess of \$276,000.00 to over 75 local charities. Applications from local registered charities are received twice yearly.

"Grants of \$5.2 Million to over 280 Saint John area charities for youth, seniors, social services, health, education, heritage, the arts and the environment since 1976"

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