



**ONTARIO
FEDERATION OF
LABOUR**



2026 First Nations, Métis, Inuit Circle / Union Savings Indigenous Bursary

As Canada's largest labour federation, the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) fights for positive change in every area that affects people's daily lives.

At the OFL, we know that a good, unionized job is the best way to provide a safe and stable life for Ontarians. We believe that true reconciliation must go beyond words and acknowledgements and move to action. This must involve work to support the education of Indigenous youth and to increase the representation of Indigenous people in the skilled workforce and the wider labour movement, including among union staff, activists and leaders.

To this end, the **OFL First Nations, Métis, Inuit Circle / Union Savings Indigenous Bursary** has been established to support Indigenous students to pursue post-secondary education, as a pathway to meaningful work, careers and activism in the labour movement.

The bursary has a value of \$5,000 and will be offered to a First Nation, Metis, or Inuit student who is:

- The child / family member of an affiliated union or local, or;
- Is a member in good standing of an affiliated union or local of the OFL, and;
- Has been accepted and is enrolled in any accredited college or university in Ontario, or;
- Has a signed apprenticeship

The OFL FNMI Circle will review all submissions and select the winner.

Please submit answers to the following questions, as well as proof of admission or letter of intent by **Monday, April 13, 2026**, to scholarships@ofl.ca.

*Submissions can be made in writing or by video or podcast.

Questions:

1. How did unions improve your life?
2. How AI might affect you, your job, your family?
3. Describe how your life has been positively impacted by your family's involvement in a union.
4. Reflect on what you feel are the main societal issues that unions should be advocating for at this time.
5. As a child of unionized parents, how have union values and/or union organizing helped you overcome personal barriers related to your identity?

Please help us spread the word by sharing information about the new bursary with Indigenous members and contacts.

In solidarity,

Laura Walton
OFL PRESIDENT

APPLICATION FORM FOR THE

**OFL FNMI Circle/ Union Savings
Indigenous Bursary**

2026

PART ONE: THE STUDENT

(completed by the applicant - please print)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City, Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____

a) Post-Secondary Studies (Intended program of study for September 2026. Scholarships are pending acceptance of an offer of admission.)

Public College or University: _____

Program of Study: _____

b) Voluntary Self-Identification Survey for Applicants from Equity-Seeking Groups

- I identify as ...
- Woman
 - Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit or Métis)
 - 2SLGBTQIA+
 - Person with a disability

c) Mandatory Checklist for All Applications

(Please check that all of the required documents are included, and all sections are completed.)

- I have enclosed the following documents:
- Completed application forms
 - Signed Apprenticeship
 - Proof of Enrolment (e.g. Letter from registrar, tuition invoice) in a Public College or University
 - Essay, video or podcast submission on this year's topic

_____ Total number of pages enclosed.

All information on this application will be kept strictly confidential.

PAGE 2: BURSARY APPLICATION FORM

PART TWO: AFFILIATED UNION

(completed by an officer or designate of the union - please print)

Full Name of Parent or Applicant Who is a Union Member: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation: _____

Union: _____ Local: _____

I, the undersigned, attest that _____ is a member in good standing in this local union, which is affiliated with the Ontario Federation of Labour.

Name of Local Union Officer/Designate: _____ Signature: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____ Date: _____

PART THREE: DECLARATION, DEADLINE & DESTINATION

I hereby confirm that all information submitted herewith is true and complete. I declare that my essay, video, or podcast submission is my own original work and reflective of my independent thoughts. I acknowledge that the OFL retains the right to publish the names of winners, their photos, and submissions (wholly or in part).

Your Name: _____ Signature: _____

Completed Application Form and required documents must be received by email or regular mail no later than Monday, April 13, 2026 to:

Email: scholarships@ofl.ca

Subject: OFL/Union Savings FNMI Bursary

OR

Mail:

Ontario Federation of Labour

895 Don Mills Rd., Suite 600, Tower Two

Toronto, ON M3C 1W3

FOR EMAIL SUBMISSIONS, PLEASE ENSURE YOU RECEIVE A REPLY CONFIRMATION EMAIL. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED CONFIRMATION OF YOUR SUBMISSION, PLEASE RESEND YOUR SUBMISSION TO SCHOLARSHIPS@OFL.CA, OR CONTACT ANNE MARIE SUTTON AT ASUTTON@OFL.CA FOR ASSISTANCE.

PLEASE NOTE, THE OFL ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOST, MISSING, INCOMPLETE, OR REDIRECTED SUBMISSIONS OF APPLICATIONS, ENTRIES OR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION NOT RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE.