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GORDON MITCHELL MEMORIAL FUND

DECEMBER 2012

THE LEGACY CONTINUES

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

SCHOOL

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OLDS

Margaret Mead

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- \$27,503 raised
- 5 youth share \$1,500 each year
- \$12,000 given to 39 students over 9 years
- Independent selection committee selects the students annually
- For more information: www.gordonmitchell.ca

Since 2004, 39 Gordon Mitchell Memorial Fund (GMMF) awards, with a cumulative value of \$12,000 have been given out to students at Olds High School to support youth in sport development (20), the Registered Apprenticeship Program - RAP (9) and students who go above and beyond to build a rich school community (10).

In June, the Rotary Gordon Mitchell Sport Awards were awarded, by Mary Turner, to Jasneal Dhaliwal and Amber Maschke. Jasneal shared "I was able to attend the NBC Camp for basketball at Olds College. At this camp, I learned multiple things that I can use on the court and throughout life. I will continue to work hard with basketball because it is one of my greatest passions in life. I am so grateful to you all, thanks again!"

This young leader also won the Gordon Mitchell Spirit Award, for the Grade 11 category, for his outstanding efforts in building a healthy and dynamic school environment. After receiving the second award, Jasneal said "... This award means a lot to me, it shows me that people appreciate me as a leader. I will continue to dedicate my time to helping others, and continue to be a leader in my school and community."

Similarly, Chase Olsen won the Gordon Mitchell Spirit Award for the Grade 9 category. He said "I was very honoured to receive the spirit award in memory of Gordon... I am very grateful for all my opportunities and blessings."

In addition to the sports awards and the leadership/ citizenship awards, in memory of Gordon, his family feels that it is also important to attract students to the skilled trades (a definite interest of Gordon's). This year, **Paisley Hayes**, a young female welder won the **RAP Award**.

She said "I am very grateful to you: this scholarship helped a great deal by paying for just over half of my tuition for my first year of classes at Olds College. I am taking welding [and my first day went great]! I just thought that you might enjoy hearing why I got into this trade - being a young woman who just graduated. It's uncommon to see many female welders. I really love my job. I wake up looking forward to it, and I learn every day. ... I build ornamental iron work, custom railings, gates, fences, spiral stair cases and many other odd jobs. It is a very creative, thought provoking job. I am challenged every day. I built a railing for a home that ended up being featured in "Best Homes" magazine (Winter 2012 issue)." She shared "I'm planning on getting my journeyman ticket, which will then help to put myself through university for some kind of visual arts degree."

Regardless of whether we are encouraging development through sport, rewarding citizenship or encouraging youth to enter the skilled trades; our future is in good hands with young people like Amber, Chase, Jasneal, and Paisley!

THANK YOU TO THE 2012 DONORS

- JULIE CALDERWOOD
- JOHN & GWEN MELNYK
- TRACEY MELNYK
- JIM & JOYANNE MITCHELL
- KAITLYN MITCHELL

