

Fisheries and Aquaculture
October 24, 2011

Minister Awards Fourth Annual Fisheries and Aquaculture Scholarship

The fourth annual Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Scholarship was presented by the Honourable Clyde Jackman, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, to Mary Alliston Butt of Milltown. The \$1,000 scholarship was created to promote awareness of the province's fishing and aquaculture industries among youth entering post-secondary education.

"A goal of my department is to encourage the youth of our province to consider opportunities in fisheries and aquaculture," said Minister Jackman. "Bright young people such as Ms. Butt have the talent and enthusiasm to enhance these industries and carry them forward towards a bright future."



Scholarship applications require strong academic standing and participation in extracurricular activities, as well as an essay of 2,500 words or less that discusses issues facing the fishing and/or aquaculture industries and offers possible solutions. Mary Alliston's essay was focused on overfishing of the province's fish stocks, and how regulations and restrictions can have an impact.

Ms. Butt is a graduate of Bay d'Espoir Academy in Milltown. She maintained a 90 per cent average in high school while also participating in many school groups. She was involved in the yearbook committee, the student council, and the high school choir. She was also co-captain of the girl's basketball team and won the Outstanding Acting award during the regional Drama Festival. Outside of school, Ms. Butt was involved with a wide range of activities. She was the central representative for FINALLY! Provincial Youth Council, she participated in a World Vision 30 Hour Famine, and has fundraised for various charities such as the SPCA and World Wildlife Foundation.

The Provincial Government established the Fisheries and Aquaculture Scholarship in 2008. The scholarship represents one of a number of initiatives aimed at stimulating youth engagement in fishing and aquaculture. Others include the Dr. Wilfred Templeman Memorial Scholarship for graduate students, support for the Students On Ice organization's educational expeditions to the Arctic and the Antarctic, and support for student placements at the Centre for Fisheries Ecosystems Research at the Marine Institute.

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