**Matthew R. Churchill Memorial Scholarship**



**THE AWARD**

* One (1) scholarship of **$2,000** will be awarded each year
* The scholarship is to be taken in the same year of the award
* Financial need will be the determining factor if there are candidates of equal overall standing

**ABOUT MATTHEW**

Matthew Churchill was killed on the evening of March 28, 2005 by a hit-run-driver on Bauline Line in Portugal Cove. After his death, Matthew's parents established the Matthew R. Churchill Memorial Fund in order to provide a legacy and honor his memory through assisting others interested in continuing their education.

A Grade 9 student of Leary's Brook Junior High, Matthew made friends with everyone he met, was actively involved with hockey, an avid skateboarder and had a passion for playing guitar. Although Matthew worked extremely hard in school, his academic achievements were overshadowed by a learning disability. Through the assistance of his parents, his dogged determination, and sheer hard work, he did succeed academically. He often talked about becoming a geologist like his dad, but in the final months before his death he was thinking of becoming a police officer.

Matthew played hockey for the Leary's Brook Junior High Eagles and also played house hockey in the Midget Division with the St. John's Minor Hockey Association where his dad Rod spent 15 years as a coach and Board Member with the Caps hockey association. Matthew had a deep love of the sport - not so much for winning games, but for the fun and friendship it brought. He enjoyed spending every weekend in the rink with his dad and his friends and was very much a regular fixture at Twin Rinks on the weekend.

Matthew's friends were very important to him. He spent a lot of time with not just one or two good friends but with a circle of about 20 close friends. Matthew was the one who brokered the peace during arguments, helped teach others how to play guitar or skateboard, was a role model for his younger cousins, and above all was the best son Rod and Desma could have ever asked for.

Matthew had a gift of lifting spirits and making people smile through his generosity and kindness and it is these traits that Matthew's parents want to honor by making available a post-secondary scholarship in his memory.

**ADMINISTRATION**

The Memorial Fund was initiated in April 2005 and at that time, the Churchills asked the following individuals to act as trustees:

* John Baker, Q.C.; Executive Chairman, Altius Minerals Corporation
* Donald Warr, F.C.A; Partner, Blackwood & Warr Accountants

Proceeds collected through donations and fund raising has been transferred to the management of the Newfoundland and Labrador Education Foundation Inc. Baker and Warr remain as trustees and advisors to the Churchill Family.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

* The applicant must be a full-time student pursuing post-secondary studies at an institution approved by the Department of Education. (Candidates will be required to submit proof of registration.)
* The applicant must be attending the post-secondary institution in the same year they graduate Level III (Grade 12)
* The applicant must have played minor hockey as a member of the St. John's Minor Hockey Association and having played all three years of midget hockey either in house league or a player with the minor or major midget divisions. Members of the Avalon Celtics Minor Hockey Association who player their midget house league hockey with the Caps will also be considered for the award.
* The applicant must have attained a minimum overall 65% average for courses required for Level III graduation. (Candidates will be required to submit an official transcript of their academic record.)
* A written essay must be submitted by the applicant describing: SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES (student council, peer counseling, tutoring, yearbook committee, school club, etc.); COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (youth groups, minor sports coaching, charitable association volunteer activities, etc.); ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT & PARTICIPATION (participation, achievements, recognition, volunteer activities, etc.). This essay should include some comments regarding the importance of these activities as your development as a young adult.

**CRITERIA WEIGHTING**

* Academic Achievement (65%)
* Athletic Achievement & Participation (20%)
* School Leadership & Community Involvement (15%)

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

* Complete an application form which can be downloaded by clicking [HERE](http://www.capshockey.ca/uploads/scholarships/matthew_churchill_memorial_scholarship_application.2017.11.02.pdf)
* Submit a copy of an official high-school transcript
* Submit proof of acceptance at an approved post-secondary institution
* Submit an essay describing athletic achievements, school leadership and community involvement as well as how all three have helped in your development as a young adult
* Deadline for applications is November 01 with award selection made on or about November 15
* Applications must be submitted to:

**Matthew R. Churchill Memorial Scholarship
c/o Scholarship Committee
Newfoundland and Labrador Education Foundation Inc.
95 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, NL, A1B 1R6**

**PAST RECIPIENTS**

* 2021 - Jack Benson (East Coast Blizzard AAA)
* 2020 - No Award Given
* 2019 - Mark White
* 2018 - Brandon Hillyard
* 2017 - Thomas Wright  (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2016 - Jeremy Lehr (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2015 - Liam Maher (St. John's Leafs AAA)
* 2014 - Matthew Kenny (St. John's Leafs AAA)
* 2013 - Josh Lehr (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2012 - Joanna Snelgrove (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2011 - Matthew Dymond (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2010 - Daniel Morrissey (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2009 - Claire Lenehan (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2008 - David Lahey & Bill Casey (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2007 - Chris Clark (St. John's Caps Midget House League)
* 2006 - Ryan Roberts (St. John's Caps Midget House League)