

**From:** Smout, Dorothy [<mailto:Dorothy.Smout@simcoe.ca>] **On Behalf Of** Aitken, Mark

**Sent:** Thursday, December 24, 2015 10:58 AM

**To:** County Council; Carla Ladd; [gjackson@orillia.ca](mailto:gjackson@orillia.ca); Dawn McAlpine; Alison Thomas; Fay, Andrea; Barb Kane; Bonnie Sander; Cindy Maher; Doug Irwin; Doug Luker; Innisfil Clerk; Jennifer Connor; John Daly; Pamela Fettes; Rebecca Murphy; Sara Almas; Sharon Goerke; Ted Walker; Wasaga Beach Clerk; Aitken, Mark; Brendan Holly; Carolyn Tripp; Eric Wargel; Geoff McKnight; George Vadeboncoeur; Greg Murphy; Henry Sander; Janice Mckinnon; Jason Reynar; John Brown; Robert Brindley; Robert Lamb; Robin Dunn; Steve Sage

**Cc:** Aitken, Mark; Clark, Brenda

**Subject:** County of Simcoe Bursary Funding

Good morning,

One of the strategic initiatives for the Corporation of the County of Simcoe is to “Establish partnerships to identify opportunities for strengthened Human Services and Education to support improved health and well-being of our residents”. One way in which the County does this is by providing annual funding for bursaries for students residing within the County to assist them with the financial challenges of post-secondary education. These bursaries are available to eligible candidates from each of the sixteen member municipalities, as well as the Cities of Barrie and Orillia. In past years, bursaries in the amount of \$3,000 were available to up to five (5) Simcoe County high school students who were entering their first year of university or college. Applicants are assessed on the basis of grades, extra-curricular activities, volunteerism, financial need and an essay. Applications are reviewed by two members of the senior management team and then a final review and decision is made by two members of County Council (as selected by the Warden).

At the April 14, 2015 meeting of the Committee of the Whole, County Council approved funding changes to the County of Simcoe Bursary program. Each municipality, as well as the Cities of Barrie and Orillia, have the opportunity to participate in the County’s bursary program by contributing \$1,000 to the existing funding program. The County of Simcoe will then supplement this contribution, which would guarantee an applicant from the participating municipality to receive one of the available bursaries. These bursaries would be in addition to the existing five \$3,000 bursaries.

County Council also approved a change to the policy allowing students entering their second year of post-secondary education to participate in the bursary program as well.

Now that County Council has approved the 2016 budget, which included the increased bursary funding amounts, we are in a position to commence planning for the 2016 bursary program. Please advise if your municipality would like to participate in the revised County bursary program.

Mark Aitken  
Chief Administrative Officer