



Press Release

Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada
November 19, 2007

Prairie Rhodes Scholarships for 2008

The Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee for the Prairies is pleased to announce the election of three residents of Manitoba and Alberta to Rhodes Scholarships tenable for studies at the University of Oxford in England, beginning in October 2008. The Rhodes Scholars-elect are:

Akosua M. Matthews, Manitoba. Ms. Matthews, 22, was born in Edmonton and raised in Winnipeg where she graduated from Fort Richmond Collegiate. She received in May 2006 a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and the gold medal in philosophy from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. She was lead intern for the Manitoba Legislative Assembly and is now a policy analyst with the Province of Manitoba. She is a corporal and military musician in the reserve (Royal Winnipeg Rifles Regiment) and an active member of the Youth Parliament of Manitoba. She proposes to pursue graduate studies in philosophy in Oxford.

Landis J. Stankievech, Alberta. Mr. Stankievech, 23, was raised in Trochu, Alberta. He graduated from Trochu Valley School then played hockey for two years as a forward with Olds Grizzlys of the Alberta Junior Hockey League. He is enrolled in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Princeton University in New Jersey USA where he will receive a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in 2008. He plays centre for Princeton University's NCAA Division I men's varsity ice hockey team and has received numerous awards for athletic and academic excellence. Mr. Stankievech intends to study philosophy, politics and economics in Oxford.

Aaron J. Trachtenberg, Manitoba. Mr. Trachtenberg, 21, was raised in Winnipeg and graduated from Ecole Kelvin High School. He received in June 2007 a Bachelor of Science with a major in Biopsychology from the University of Winnipeg, where he also assisted in laboratory and field research. His academic honours include the Sir William Stephenson Scholarship and an NSERC (Canada) Undergraduate Research Award. He plays and coaches team handball and has competed internationally as goaltender for Canada's National Junior Team. He has served as a volunteer at Winnipeg's Health Science Centre. Mr. Trachtenberg proposes to do graduate studies in neuroscience in Oxford.

The Rhodes Scholarships, first awarded in Canada in 1904, are the best known of international scholarships. They are financed and administered by the Oxford-based Rhodes Trust established under the will of Cecil Rhodes. Up to eleven Rhodes Scholarships are awarded annually in Canada, including three in the Prairie Region of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The Scholarship, tenable for two or three years, covers tuition fees and an allowance of 11,000 pounds per annum. Selection is made by committee after personal interviews and on the basis of a candidate's record. Although scholastic ability is of importance, such factors as character, qualities of leadership and interest in sports are carefully considered. Distinction, whether in intellect or character or a combination of these, is the essential requirement.

Further information: Hedley Auld, Secretary – Manitoba (204) 934-7354 auld@cn.ca
Jessie Sloan, Secretary – Alberta (403) 244-9160 asaca@shaw.ca