

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hoti ts'eeda-Aurora College announce 2023 Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship recipient

YELLOWKNIFE, NT – The 2023 Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship is being awarded to Antonia Lafferty, a student in her fourth year of Aurora College's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship is a \$20,000 stipend that supports an Aurora College student's involvement in research during their studies.

The Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship award is funded by Hoti ts'eeda and provided through a partnership between Hoti ts'eeda and Aurora College / Aurora Research Institute. Hoti ts'eeda is funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and is a research support unit hosted by the Tłıchǫ Government. Edets'seèhdzà (eh-DEY-tsay-zah) means "stepping forward to challenge yourself" in the Tłıchǫ language. Antonia will be the sixth student supported through the Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship since its launch in 2019. Past research subjects for recipients have included traditional teachings, Northern-focused care and Indigenous health research.

A proud Dene and Cree descendant, Lafferty envisions her future role a registered nurse who is dedicated to eliminating healthcare disparities. Driven by a desire to care for her community holistically, she is committed to breaking down barriers and making a meaningful impact as a healthcare professional. Lafferty impressed the selection committee with her interpersonal, written and oral communication skills, as well as her demonstrated passion for learning and contributing to initiatives that promote an equitable and safe healthcare system.

Lafferty will be involved in various activities that include planning and participating in community engagements, preparing community visits, helping analyze and share research findings, and contributing to the organization of a workshop to discuss potential policy changes.

Hoti ts'eeda and Aurora College congratulate Antonia Lafferty and look forward to seeing her progress over the coming year.

For more information or to apply, visit nwtspor.ca/programs/enihtledee-xaetaa-studentship.

Inquiries about the program can be directed to Andreeanne Robitaille at arobitaille@auroracollege.nt.ca.

“The Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship supports students to gain meaningful experience in wellness research in the NWT. These students will go on to be homegrown researchers and professionals shaping the northern research landscape.”

- Dr John B. Zoe, Chairperson, Hotì ts'eeda

“The opportunity to engage in health and wellness related research while pursuing studies provides Aurora College students a rich opportunity to anchor learning in Northern communities. Aurora College is proud to support the Edets'seèhdzà Mentorship and our outstanding recipient, Antonia Lafferty.”

- Dr Glenda Vardy Dell, President, Aurora College

Aurora College delivers academic upgrading, trades and industrial training, certificate, diploma and degree programs to more than 3,000 full and part-time students at three campuses, 19 Community Learning Centres and other community sites in the Northwest Territories. Community-centred post-secondary programs reflect Northern culture and the needs of the Northern labour market. Aurora College's research division, Aurora Research Institute, conduct and supports research in the NWT. Research centres are located in Inuvik, Yellowknife and Fort Smith.

For more information, please contact:

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