

KARREN STINSON BURSARY for Lutherans and Anglicans based in Western Canada – Application Deadline: 30 April 2026

The Karren Stinson Bursary Fund celebrates the life of a parish worker at Lutheran Church of the Cross, **the late Karren Louise Stinson**. She was stricken with an aneurysm and died on August 13, 1990, at the age of 32 years. Karren contributed significantly to the life of the congregation, especially in areas of parish education, congregational programming, youth work, and Evangelical Lutheran Women's ministry. She also served on committees at the conference, Synodical, and national levels of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Karren resigned this position after six years to attend the University of Victoria to pursue a degree in social work, with the goal of full-time church service.

The **purpose** of this Bursary Fund is to give **financial assistance to Lutherans and Anglicans based in Western Canada** who are currently involved in post-secondary education leading to a vocation of service. The first Bursary was awarded in 1991.

We now invite applications for a bursary of \$1500. The deadline is 30 April 2026.

Persons who wish to be considered by the Bursary Committee must meet the following criteria:

- Be actively enrolled in full-time or part-time **post-secondary studies**;
- Be a **Canadian citizen or have Permanent Resident Status** with a Social Insurance Number (SIN) to be provided in the application letter (see below). The SIN number is required by the Canada Revenue Agency for income tax purposes.
- Have a **permanent address in Western Canada** (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon).
- Be an **active member** of a **Lutheran or Anglican** congregation.

To apply for the 2026 Karren Stinson Bursary, please follow these instructions carefully:

- 1) Send a signed **e-mail** to lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca **no later than 30 April 2026**, with "Application for Karren Stinson Bursary Award 2026" in the subject line.
- 2) Attach an **application letter** to the e-mail that is addressed to the Bursary Committee and provides **a clear rationale** for why you believe you would be a worthy recipient of the Bursary.
 - In **2 pages or less**, briefly **describe the following**:
 - your current situation, including your financial need;
 - academic achievements;
 - Christian activities;
 - participation in community and church related activities; and
 - preparation for a career in the field of social services, education, ordained ministry, or a related church vocation.
- 3) Arrange for **two official letters of recommendation**. One must be from a member of the clergy; the other one must be from a teacher or an employer. These letters must be attached to an e-mail and **sent directly to** lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca **no later than 30 April 2026**. NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that these letters of recommendation arrive on time; incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Bursary is scheduled to be awarded in the late spring of 2026. If you have any questions about the application process prior to the deadline, please send an e-mail to the Karren Stinson Bursary Fund Committee in care of lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca.