

**The Hydro One
Indigenous Award for Graduate Studies in Public Policy and Administration**

**Department of Politics and Public Administration
Faculty of Arts**

Criteria and Selection Guidelines

Source of Funds

Hydro One Networks Inc.
Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS)

Purpose

To provide financial assistance and recognize the academic achievement of an Indigenous student entering the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program at Ryerson University.

The Hydro One **Indigenous Award for Graduate Studies in Public Administration** will be awarded to up to two Indigenous students entering the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program.

Award Amount

The endowed funds will provide up to two annual awards whose combined total will be up to \$17,000. The actual amount will be dependent upon the income generated throughout the previous year.

Eligibility & Application Information

Applicants may be self-nominated or be nominated by their peers or Department of Politics and Public Administration faculty or staff.

Applicants must self-identify as Indigenous.

Interested candidates will need to supply:

- o One-page cover letter describing why they are an ideal candidate
- o Resume
- o Three Letters of support from both academic and community-based references
- o OTSS Budget Form

The applicant/nominator should write, in confidence, to the Chair of the Department of Politics and Public Administration and copy the Graduate Directors, naming The Hydro One **Indigenous Award for Graduate Studies in Public Administration** and explaining how the student meets the Award criteria and how the program and the community would benefit from the student's contribution.

In keeping with the admission requirements of the Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration program and the requirements of the Ontario Trust for Student Support initiative (OTSS), a candidate for the scholarship must have:

A four year degree with at least a B average in the last two years of study.

Demonstrated competence in the English Language.

Canadian citizenship or be a protected person;

Ontario residency (in accordance with OTSS requirements);

Demonstrated financial need as determined by Ryerson University;

Letters of recommendation that support the applicant's academic abilities.

- o A student may substitute one letter from an employer for one of the academic references.
- o In addition, a letter of recommendation from an Indigenous community that outlines why they support the applicant seeking the award is required. Acceptable recommendations can be provided by diverse Indigenous communities/organizations; for example: Elders, Friendship Centres, teachers/professors, guidance/academic counselors, mentors, or professionals who can speak to the applicant's attributes and can clearly speak to the applicant as an Indigenous person.

A statement of interest.

- o The statement should address the applicant's reasons for pursuing graduate studies in this program, research interests which the applicant may wish to pursue, how the applicant's previous studies and experience have prepared them for the MA program, and the applicant's career objectives and how this program relates to them.

Weighting of Criteria

Criteria	Weighting
Entrance CGPA	30%
Demonstrated Need (Budget)	10%
Cover Letter and resume	40%
Letters of Support	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Selection

The selection committee will be composed of three members from the Ryerson University Department of Politics and Public Administration community. They will review the weighted criteria (see above). The Committee will prepare a ranked list of qualified Award recipients and will make the final selection of the recipient based on the weighted criteria.

If, in the opinion of the selection committee, no applicants meet the outlined criteria, the award shall not be given to any applicant that year.