

Peggy Campbell Scholarship

The Peggy Campbell Scholarship is funded through the Ron and Peggy Campbell Legacy Fund administered as a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) by the Edmonton Community Foundation through Peace River School Division # 10. It was established by Lorne and Melanie Campbell (the Founders) in memory of Lorne's mother, Peggy Campbell, to honor Peggy's life in Peace River including her time as a student at Peace River High School. It provides an annual scholarship to a student graduating from Peace River High School based on financial need.

Peggy Campbell was born in Peace River on October 21, 1921. Her legal name was Margaret, but she was always known as Peggy. At the time of Peggy's birth, Peace River had a population of 980 people. Everyone knew everyone else. Generations tended to remain in the location where they were born. The kids made their own fun, wandering in the hills. There was little in the way of organized leagues. Peggy was a member of the Dancing Sunbeams. She said that they were a "pretty big deal" and that they travelled as far as McLennan to perform. There was a girls' hockey team, but it was disbanded after one game when one of the girls lost a tooth. They also played tennis and basketball on outdoor courts. Peggy's yearbook states: "In the basketball game between Notikewin and Peace River High School, the final game could not be completed because of rain." In 1939, the girls' basketball team travelled to Edmonton for a tournament. They camped on the exhibition grounds. There was no swimming pool in Peace River. Peggy and her friends used to walk five miles across the Peace Bridge to West Peace River to meet up with friends to swim at the Channel. They also swam at the Mudhole in the Heart River. Families had corn roasts and wiener roasts in the Jack Pines and down Shaftsbury Trail. A major vacation was a camping trip to Slave Lake. In the winter there was public skating at the outdoor rink. Alternately, people skated on the river ice of the Peace River.

Peggy's mother was Mabel Blanchard Richardson. Mabel was born in 1895 at Fort Francis, Ontario. In 1910, Mabel traveled at the age of 15 on the Edson Trail to Lake Saskatoon, near present-day Grande Prairie, where the family homesteaded. Her father was Charles Richardson, known as Charlie. He was born in 1883 at Thorhild, Ontario. In 1908, Charlie traveled to the Peace Country. Charlie met Mabel in Lake Saskatoon, and they were married in 1915. They moved to Peace River in 1916, where Charlie was an Inspector for all Revillon Freres trading posts in Northern Alberta, requiring him to travel on the DA Thomas boat north to Fort Vermillion. Charlie served as Secretary Treasurer of the Peace River School Division and the Peace River Hospital.

Peggy attended high school at Peace River High School. The students took both Latin and French and student grades were published in the Record Gazette. In 1938 Peggy received a cash prize for the Peace River High School student with the highest standing in History in the June Exams. Peggy graduated from grade 12 in 1939. This was a few months prior to commencement of World War II, so a number of the boys in her class were off to war. That September, Peggy attended Alberta College in Edmonton. Upon completion of her business course in December 1939, she returned to Peace River and commenced employment at the Peace River Courthouse. In 1942, the US Army arrived in Peace River to build a highway to Norman Wells in the Northwest Territories. The American troops camped on the west side of the river. Since the US Army paid more than the Courthouse, Peggy and some of her girlfriends went to work for them.

Ron Campbell was born in Moosomin, Saskatchewan December 28, 1922. He moved to Peace River as a boy with his father and mother and four siblings in 1929. When Ron's mother died in 1932, the five children were sent ten miles south of town to the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Mission from 1932 to 1937. Ron enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1941.

Peggy married Ron Campbell May 30, 1944. Ron and Peggy celebrated VE Day together in Vancouver on May 8, 1945, following which, Peggy returned to Peace River where she celebrated VJ Day on August 14, 1945, while Ron remained in Vancouver.

Following the War, Ron and Peggy resided in Peace River. Ron worked as a salesman for Burns Foods from 1947 to 1976. They had three children: Lorne, Ken and Dixie. After the kids were in school, Peggy worked for an insurance adjuster, later for the Peace River Regional Education Authority, and then in the constituency office for Al Adair, MLA.

Based upon Ron's involvement in sports, seasons were defined by baseball and hockey. In later years when the family became involved in harness racing, they stabled and trained their horses at John and Daisy Foster's farm east of town. Ron was well known throughout the Peace country. For many years he was a player, coach and manager with the Peace River Stampeder baseball and hockey teams as well as junior and old-timers' hockey. In 1970 he was honored by the Town of Peace River before 700 fans with a Ron Campbell Day where he was also named sportsman of the year.

Following Ron's death in 1982, Peggy became friends with three other widows in Peace River. They met for coffee at a local café, where they spent many hours talking and laughing. They took several cruises and flew to Australia. These were events that all of them had planned to do with their husbands.

In 1994, at 72 years of age, Peggy sold her home in Peace River and packed up a lifetime of memories. She moved to Leduc where she delivered meals on wheels and made many new friends. Peggy loved to travel and was always happy to be in the back seat with a map. In February 2016, Peggy moved into long-term care. She had two hip replacements and required a lift to move in and out of her wheelchair. Yet she continued to be a whiz at crossword puzzles and enjoyed tending to her tomatoes in the courtyard. She loved to watch the birds in the birdfeeders outside her window. Despite her condition, she said, "I'm so lucky. I have this window, and I can watch the weather, the birds, the yards, the people and all the action on the street." Peggy passed away on February 16, 2021, at 99 years of age.

9/21/2024

Peggy Campbell Scholarship Administration and Application Process

Administration

- The Peggy Campbell Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance for grade 12 students graduating from Peace River High School and enrolling in post-secondary programs of any type, academic, trade or specialty.
- The scholarship is part of the Ron and Peggy Campbell Legacy Fund administered by the Edmonton Community Foundation through Peace River School Division # 10 (CRA Charity # 10782 8931 RR001).

Eligibility

- Grade 12 students at Peace River High School scheduled to graduate with a High School Diploma that June.
- Must have attended grades 10, 11 and 12 within the Peace River School Division.

Selection Committee

- Principal, Vice Principal, and Grade-12 teachers.

Scholarship Announcement and Application Information

- **Timeline:** September (Initial Announcement), February 1 (Reminder)
- **Action:** The Principal will announce the scholarship details to Grade 12 students and their parents via email, school announcements, and the school website. This announcement will include:
 - Eligibility criteria
 - Application requirements and process
 - Selection criteria
 - Important deadlines
- **Purpose:** Ensure all eligible students and stakeholders are aware of the scholarship and understand how to apply.

Application Submission

- **Deadline:** March 1 of the graduation year
- **Submission Format:** Written applications should be submitted in hard copy or electronically via a designated school email address.
- **Required Documents:**
 1. **Personal Statement:** A letter from the applicant (or on behalf of the applicant) outlining his/her financial need, academic goals, and how he/she meets the selection criteria, including positive attitude, work effort, class participation, and extracurricular high school activities. Enrolment in Career and Technology Studies will be accepted as an additional consideration; however, it should not receive greater weighting than any other factors. Consideration will also be given

to community/external activities, including employment, courses, programs, leisure activities and volunteer participation. Applicants should intend on participating in a post-secondary education program. This can include any post-secondary training (i.e., University/College, trades programs, academic courses, private schools such as massage therapy, esthetics courses, etc.).

2. **Supporting Documents:** May include letters of recommendation from teachers, coaches, supervisors, employers or community leaders, and any other relevant documentation to validate the applicant's involvement in extracurricular and community activities.
 3. **Optional:** Documentation or statement outlining special circumstances that contribute to the applicant's financial need.
- **Submission Eligibility:** Applications can be submitted by students, parents, teachers, or other stakeholders on behalf of the student.

Application Review

- **Timeline:** March 2 – May 31
- **Review Committee:** The Principal, Vice Principal, and Grade-12 teachers will review applications based on the stated criteria.
- **Evaluation Criteria:**
 1. Financial need (primary consideration)
 2. Positive attitude, work effort, and class participation
 3. Involvement in extracurricular activities within the school
 4. Participation in community or external activities
 5. References or verification of involvement as needed
- **Selection Process:** Each application will be scored using a rubric that weights financial need most heavily, followed by attitude, effort, participation, extracurricular and community involvement.

Decision and Notification

- **Decision Announcement:** During the Peace River High School graduation ceremony
- **Winner Notification:** The Principal will notify the winner prior to the ceremony to prepare for the announcement.

Scholarship Disbursement

- **Required Proof:** The recipient must submit proof of:
 1. Receipt of a High School Diploma.
 2. Registration in a post-secondary education program no later than September 30 of the year following graduation. This can include any post-secondary training (i.e., University/College, trades programs, academic courses, private schools such as massage therapy, esthetics courses, etc.)

- **Fund Disbursement:** Every year around April 1, Edmonton Community Foundation will notify Peace River School Division #10 of the amount of the upcoming disbursement of funds. Following that, around April 30, a cheque will be issued by the Edmonton Community Foundation to the School Division's Secretary-Treasurer. These funds will be held pending payment of the scholarship.
- Once the items of proof are provided, the School Division will disburse the funds to the recipient. The Scholarship recipient will have until September 30, of the year following notification of receipt of the scholarship, to start his/her post-secondary program.
- **Contingency Plan:** If the recipient does not meet the registration requirement or if no scholarship is awarded in a particular year, the scholarship funds will be redirected as per the fund's guidelines (e.g., to a recent winner or a second candidate in the upcoming year).

This structured process ensures clear communication, fair evaluation, and proper administration of the Peggy Campbell Scholarship, aligning with the goals of supporting students in need.