



# Gwaii Trust Society

## Continuing Education Grant provides new opportunities for Haida Gwaii residents

**Name:** Noel Strombom  
**School:** UBC Okanagan  
**Goal:** Bachelor's Degree in Human Kinetics  
**Funding since 2019:** \$12,000

Helping residents of Haida Gwaii recover from serious injuries was the inspiration for Daajing Giids resident, Noel Strombom, to pursue an undergraduate degree in human kinetics. "I've always loved to help people and thought this would be a fun way of doing so," he says.

He will finish his Bachelors in Human Kinetics at UBCO in April of 2024 and then would like to pursue a masters in physiotherapy. "After this I want to return to Haida Gwaii and work there and put the knowledge I learn from my degree to help the community I come from."

Best of luck, Noel!

**Name:** Rob Durigon  
**School:** Kwantlen Polytechnic University  
**Goal:** Certified Electrician  
**Funding since 2022:** \$3,750

Having been on Haida Gwaii since 2015, Rob Durigon wasn't getting the job satisfaction or income he felt he could achieve. Wondering how to improve his family's well-being while becoming a more valuable member of the Haida Gwaii community, he settled on becoming a Red Seal electrician.

From his home in Daajing Giids, he travels to Cloverdale to attend classes at Kwantlen Polytechnic. After recently completing a 6-month Electrical Foundations program, which, after starting to work with a sponsor, qualifies him as a first-year apprentice, Rob now also has 350 hours out of 6000 banked towards his Red Seal certification. He returns in May to continue his studies, and we wish him the best of luck.



Noel Strombom



Rob Durigon

# Frequently Asked Questions about the Continuing Education Grant

## Who can apply?

Residents who have lived on Haida Gwaii for the past 24 consecutive months. A student who has left Haida Gwaii to attend school but otherwise maintains their residency is considered a resident. This grant is open to mature students, recent high school graduates, and both full-time and part-time students.

## How much money is available?

Up to \$3,750 a calendar year, or a maximum of five courses to a maximum of \$750 per course. Funding will be based on the actual cost of your course and materials.

## What can I apply for?

This grant can help cover the cost of tuition and course materials for courses at recognized universities, colleges, and trades programs (including online courses) that result in credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree. This includes both short-term courses (those that take less than three months to complete) and long-term courses (those that are three months or longer)

## Is it hard to apply?

We heard from Noel Strombom that the process was very straight forward . It's "well laid out for the applicants and easy to access." Our staff are available to assist along the way, especially if this is your first time applying for a grant.

## When is the application deadline?

Applications are accepted throughout the year. Your application must be submitted no later than either two weeks into the semester or course (long-term courses) or the day before the course starts (short-term courses).

## Who can I contact at Gwaii Trust?

Reach out to Pam Hill, [ceg@gwaiitrust.com](mailto:ceg@gwaiitrust.com) or 559 8104, or visit us at [gwaiitrust.com/grants](http://gwaiitrust.com/grants) for more information.

## Gwaii Trust Annual General Meeting

The Gwaii Trust Board of Directors invites you to join their Annual General Meeting. You have the option to attend this year's AGM either in person or electronically.

Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
Sarah's Longhouse, Old Massett

Or, join as we go live on Zoom. Details at [www.gwaiitrust.com](http://www.gwaiitrust.com) or contact our office for additional support. Questions will be taken both in person and over Zoom.

Join Us!

## The Board has approved a new advance schedule and a reduction in reporting requirements for grants less than \$10,000

If you are awarded a grant that is \$10,000 or less, you are now eligible to receive an initial advance of 50% of the grant funding. When you are ready to submit a claim or report on your grant, you will only need to provide the receipts and payment confirmations for Gwaii Trust funded activities!

We will also ask you to submit a budget to actual spreadsheet to support your final claim. We hope that this will reduce some of the administrative burden and provide improved access to Gwaii Trust funding. Contact your project officer for more information.

Good News!

## Upcoming Grant Deadlines

**Travel Assistance and Continuing Education:** Visit [www.gwaiitrust.com/grants](http://www.gwaiitrust.com/grants) for details

**Special Projects:** Jun 1, Sep 1, Nov 1 by 11:59pm

**Community Innovation:** Jun 1, Sep 1, Oct 1 by 11:59pm

**Youth Grant, Arts Grant, Arts Workshops and Arts Mentorships:** Oct 1 by 11:59pm



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