

For immediate release

FirstOntario awards \$13,000 to community-minded students pursuing post-secondary education

FirstOntario is committed to helping young people achieve future success

Hamilton, ON, September 1, 2022 – FirstOntario Credit Union is a big believer in young adults in our communities and once again has come through with demonstrable support. FirstOntario is helping 13 admirable students put their studies first and ease financial pressures, with an education award of \$1,000 each to put towards their college or university expenses.

The awards open each spring to eligible students who meet the criteria. In the true spirit of community, they are available to everyone, not just FirstOntario members. The awards recognize students who have graduated high school with a 70% average or higher, and their application clearly demonstrates the following:

- Volunteer work that embodies the attributes of caring, co-operation and community
- Leadership qualities that contribute to their community
- How they plan to use their education to make a difference

"FirstOntario considers these awards an investment in the future," Joanne Battaglia, SVP Marketing, Communications and Community Partnerships commented. "It inspires us each year to see what young people are doing in our communities, and their future aspirations. It's also rewarding to help ease some of the financial burden for these remarkable students who have already worked so hard to make an impact and be successful. We are confident they will continue to make our communities even stronger."

Since the awards began in 2005, FirstOntario has granted over \$135,000 to more than 100 first and second year post-secondary students under the age of 25. We acknowledge and appreciate this year's education award applicants and recipients and wish them all the best of luck and success in their studies.

For more information, please contact:

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About FirstOntario Credit Union

FirstOntario is a full service cooperative financial institution, serving members for more than 80 years throughout the Golden Horseshoe, Niagara Region and Southwestern regions of Ontario. With \$5.8 billion in assets under management, FirstOntario is one of Canada's largest credit unions. Everyone is welcome to be part of FirstOntario for financial services including daily transactions, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario profits are invested into the communities we serve through support for entrepreneurs, competitive rates and charitable pursuits including our award-winning student nutrition program. Learn more about us today at FirstOntario.com.