

VANIER

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NEWS RELEASE

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Vanier College Nursing graduate wins the 2009 OIIQ Scholarship

She already had a degree in Sociology, but Christine KostECKi wanted more. So she enrolled in the Nursing Program at Vanier College where she graduated in 2008. Now she has won the \$5000 OIIQ 2009 Scholarship to continue her nursing studies at McGill. The \$5000 bursary is awarded by the Quebec Order of Nurses (Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec - OIIQ) to the most deserving DEC BAC nursing student currently in the first year of studies at McGill University.

Since the award was inaugurated five years ago, it is a Vanier graduate who has won it for the last four years. The selection committee criteria for choosing a winner are high academic standing and nursing experience; community involvement and accomplishments in school activities and associations, and in professional and regional organizations; and research and authorship of scientific articles, booklets, brochures, or pamphlets on health issues and nursing.



“It’s wonderful that Christine won this award,” says Rivka Guttman, Coordinator of the Vanier Nursing Program. “It puts Vanier on the map for producing excellent nurses and it pays tribute to the quality of our teachers.” Vanier’s three-year Nursing program is integrated with the McGill University School of Nursing. Students graduating with a DEC in Nursing can complete a Bachelor Degree in Nursing at McGill University in 2 years.

Christine sums up her studies in Nursing with a “Wow”. She marvels at all she is learning and the endless possibilities open to her, including a plan to study for a master’s degree in nursing. Christine is also interested in research and applying her knowledge of sociology to her nursing expertise.

“Christine has always encouraged others to get involved and expand their awareness of the world around them,” says one of her teachers, Heidi Matarasso Bakerman. “Her own exposure to nursing has increased her awareness of cancer and women’s health and led her to do fundraising to support breast cancer research.”

Heidi Matarasso Bakerman adds, “Christine is very conscientious and works hard to achieve her goals. She always puts the needs of the patient in the forefront, and I know she’ll make valuable contributions to the profession of nursing.”

-30-