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PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF THE CANADIAN QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks former Prime Minister Chrétien for leading fundraising efforts

June 13, 2014

Ottawa, Ontario

Prime Minister's Office

Introduction

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today announced the launch of the *Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships* program, a legacy initiative to mark Her Majesty's 60 years of tireless devotion as Queen of Canada. The announcement was made in the presence of His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, as well as the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, former Prime Minister of Canada, who led fundraising efforts in support of the program and represented Canada on The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Trust.

The new five-year program will be launched this fall with the first scholarships granted to Canadian and other international Commonwealth students in 2015.

The *Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships* program is made possible through joint efforts and contributions by the Government of Canada, provincial governments, the private sector, Canadian universities, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, a special purpose charitable trust held by Community Foundations of Canada and chaired by Deloitte Canada, and the collaborative program platform offered by the Rideau Hall Foundation, which has been entrusted with the overall facilitation of the initiative.

Quick Facts

- In 2012, Prime Minister Harper appointed the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien to represent Canada to The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Trust, a Commonwealth-wide Trust celebrating the Jubilee and working towards a lasting and fitting tribute to Her Majesty. Since then, Mr. Chrétien has also been rallying partners around a major and meaningful initiative for our country: the *Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships*, a program developed with existing international scholarships in mind and that will also complement current Canadian programs.

- Canada celebrated the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne in 2012. To mark this Diamond Jubilee, the Government of Canada implemented special initiatives to honour Her Majesty's reign, her service and her dedication to this country, and to celebrate Canadian achievements of the last 60 years.
- The *Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships* provide an extraordinary opportunity to honour Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, to build a generation of globally-connected leaders in Canada and the Commonwealth, and meet the needs and aspirations of the 21st century Commonwealth. They are part of Commonwealth-wide efforts to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee.
- Established to honour Her Majesty's 60-year reign, The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust raises funds to support a variety of charitable initiatives across the Commonwealth. The Trust focuses on Commonwealth priorities such as combating curable eye diseases and promoting youth leadership. The Trust is funded by governments, individuals, organizations and the private sector, and invests in projects that seek to make a real and enduring difference in people's lives throughout the Commonwealth.
- Students selected for the scholarship program will be named "Queen Elizabeth Scholars."

Quotes

"During her reign, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has always been a champion of education both in Canada and across the entire Commonwealth. The new scholarships, which bear her name, are a fitting tribute to her tireless commitment to promoting learning and understanding both in and among Commonwealth countries. It is my sincere hope that the scholarships will help produce some of the finest leaders of tomorrow." – *Prime Minister Stephen Harper*

"I would like to thank the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien for serving as Canada's representative to the Diamond Jubilee Trust and for his public service to Canada and the Crown. Thanks to Mr. Chrétien's hard work over the last two years, millions of dollars have been raised in support of this worthy initiative that will benefit Canadian and Commonwealth students and leave a lasting legacy of the Diamond Jubilee for Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II." – *Prime Minister Stephen Harper*

Related Product

- *Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships*

Associated Links

- Canadian Crown
- The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust

Contacts

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