

Province of Ontario Scholars

Gina Young, Kyler Gannon, Griffin Garuk, Cole Kaus, Caleigh Lavallee, Davis Mullner, Adam Poulin, Claire Poulin, Bryan Ribey, Kaitlyn Gouliquer, Nicholas Warren

AHS Grad Awards, 2017-18

Academic Awards of Distinction

Governor General's Academic Medal: Adam Poulin

Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award: Claire Poulin

Rainy River District School Board Plaque Grade 12 (University): Adam Poulin

Rainy River District School Board Plaque Grade 12 (College): Griffin Garuk

Royal Bank (RBC) Math Awards: Kyler Gannon (university). Griffin Garuk (college)

Scholarships, Awards & Bursaries

AHS Robert Briggs Award (\$300): Griffin Garuk

AHS Staff Award (\$300): Adam Poulin

Atikokan Medical Associates' Scholarship (\$500): Claire Poulin, Gina Young

Gaspard Canada 'Keep Canada Green' Scholarship (\$1,000): Adam Poulin

Miss Alice Batho Scholarship (\$500): Gina Young, Baylee Thorson

Lynn Enge Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000): Claire Poulin

Schulich Leader Scholarship (nomination plaque): Adam Poulin

David Fontana Memorial Scholarship (\$500): Bryan Ribey

Atikokan Air Cadet - 600 Starfighter Squadron Honourarium (\$250): Adam Poulin, Claire Poulin

Atikokan Conservation Club Bill Beyers Memorial Bursary (\$100): Austin Loew

Atikokan Conservation Club Gerry Jefferson Memorial Bursary (\$100): Griffin Garuk

Atikokan General Hospital Bursaries (\$500): Anya Grant, Caleigh Lavallee

Atikokan Kiwanis Club Bursaries (\$500): Katherine Davidson, Jaylin Ekstrom

Atikokan Lions Club Bursaries (\$500): Cole Kaus, Davin Ojala

Atikokan Métis Council Bursary (\$400): Katherine Davidson, Nathan Desaulniers, Kaitlyn Gouliquer, Caleigh Lavallee, Page Skrenski

Atikokan Native Friendship Centre Bursary (\$200): Christy Meekis, Payton McMullen, Kaylee Oskineegish, Alexis Paquette

Atikokan Retired Teachers' Education Bursary (\$500): Bryan Ribey

AHS Bursary (\$250): Melanda Morden

AHS Student's Council Award (\$250): Claire Poulin, Baylee Thorson

AHS Technology Bursary (\$500): Nathan Desaulniers, Nathan Rusnak

Atikokan Volunteer Firefighters' Bursaries (\$500): Zandre DeGagne, Jackson Geurts

Brian Morris Memorial Plaque: Cloey Brigham, Kaitlyn Gouliquer, Hailey Manford, Melanda Morden, Alexis Paquette, Page Skrenski, Kyler Gannon, Cole Kaus, Davis Mullner

Brian Morris Memorial Award (\$250): Hailey Manford, Kyler Gannon

Community Living Atikokan Bursary (\$500): Christy Meekis

CUPE Local 65 (Rainy River DSB support staff) Bursary (\$150): Cole Kaus

CUPE Local 87 (Atikokan Town employees) Bursary (\$350): Cole Kaus

Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) Bursary (\$250): Bryan Ribey

ETFO - Support Personnel Bursary (\$250): Nick Warren

Ladies Auxilliary of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 145 Bursaries (\$500): Jaylin Ekstrom, Ryley Hansson

Linda Davidson Memorial Humanitarian Plaque: Claire Poulin

Marshall Manns Jr. Memorial Bursary (\$500): Cloey Brigham

Northwest Catholic District School Board Bursary (\$500): Davis Mullner

NWO English Catholic Teachers' Assoc. - St. Pat's Staff Bursary (\$500): Davis Mullner

OPG Secondary School Student Achievement Awards (\$250): Jackson Geurts, Brady White

OPSEU Local 725 Bursary (\$250): Kira Sulkko

OSSTF District 5B Bursary (\$1,000): Kyler Gannon, Davin Ojala, Bryan Ribey, Page Skrenski

OSSTF District 5B Bob Briggs Memorial Award (\$250): Bryan Ribey

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program Certificates: Will Carr, Katherine Davidson, Zandre DeGagne, Nathan Rusnak, Brodie Strom, Kira Sulkko (Completed 220 hours in a trade-related placement. These hours can be transferred to an apprenticeship.)

Rainy River District Stewardship Award (\$1,000): Kyler Gannon

Resolute Forest Products Bursary (\$500): Brandon Brown*, Anya Grant

Revive Bursary (\$500): Candra Urbanowicz

Robert C. Moffatt Family Bursaries (\$500): Cloey Brigham, Will Carr, Nathan Desaulniers, Griffin Garuk, Anya Grant, Cole Kaus, Davis Mullner, Claire Poulin, Brodie Strom, Baylee Thorson, Nick Warren, Brady White

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 145 Bursaries (\$1,000): Jaylin Ekstrom, Griffin Garuk

Science North Award (\$100): Claire Poulin

Shelter of Hope Bursary (\$500): Baylee Thorson

St. Patrick's Parish CWL Bursary (\$200): Claire Poulin

Jim Hogan Memorial Bursaries (\$200): Brodie Strom, Brady White

Sunshine Award in memory of Jessica 'Jessie' Johnson (\$250): Davis Mullner, Kira Sulkko

Vollans Family Bursary (\$500): Will Carr

Quetico Foundation Shan Walshe Memorial Bursary (\$1,000): Griffin Garuk

Tom Oppenheimer Outers Bursaries (\$500): Hailey Manford, Kaylee Oskineegish, Will Carr, Austin Loew

Tramin Mining Services Bursaries (\$500): Nathan Desaulniers, Nathan Rusnak

(* indicates a 2016-17 AHS grad)

When will we see a class this big again?

AHS graduates forty-two

M. McKinnon

Forty-two young Atikokanites were awarded their Ontario Secondary School diplomas in ceremonies at Grayson Hall, Friday, June 22.

David Covello (an Ontario scholar with the class of 2001), now a successful accountant (he's a partner at MNP) and father (boys Colby, 3, and Logan, 1) shared a straightforward message of hope with the grads - complete with a PowerPoint presentation (but not a single spreadsheet).

He talked about "doing what he was supposed to do" after his graduation, and going off to Western University in London, Ontario.

"The whole time I was there I knew I was making a terrible mistake," he said. The whole time turned out to be two days.

He came back home to Atikokan and worked for a year and started to think more seriously about what happiness, and success in life, meant to him. A year later he was off to Lakehead University, and on the path that brought him to fatherhood and a professional career.

"It's up to you how you define your own success," he said. "It comes down to happiness."

"And if you find yourself unhappy, it's on you to find the way to change that."

The other featured speaker of the evening was valedictorian Cole Kaus, who delivered a polished, sincere, and down-to-earth talk that must have made his classmates proud of their choice.

He focussed on the love and care he and his classmates have received from family, schools, and friends as they have grown and matured in this small town with its strong sense of community. He recalled many of the highlights of their schooling in Atikokan, from the hatching party at Hemlock School to Outers to the Voyageur sports teams.

"I know that without them all I would not be the man I am today," he said.

Mike Lewis, vice-chair of the Rainy River District School Board delivered words of welcome.

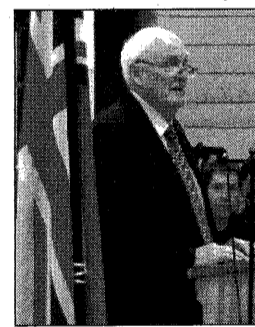
The Graduates

OSSD with Specialist High Skills Majors: Environment: Cloey Brigham, Nathan Desaulniers, Kyler Gannon, Griffin Garuk, Kaitlyn Gouliquer, Cole Kaus, Austin Loew, Payton McMullen, Davis Mullner, Davin Ojala, Alexis Paquette, Adam Poulin, Bryan Ribey, Page Skrenski, Kira Sulkko, Brady White.

Hospitality: Hailey Manford, Christy Meekis, Melanda Morden, Kaylee Oskineegish, Gina Young.

OSS Diplomas: Matthew Anderson, William Carr, Katherine Davidson, Alexandre DeGagne, Jaylin Ekstrom, Jackson Geurts, Anya Grant, Natalie Gushulak, Ryley Hansson, Shailyn Johnson, Sophia Jones, Caleigh Lavallee, Eiji Moller, Claire Poulin, John Ribey, Nathan Rusnak, Brodie Strom, Baylee Thorson, Candra Urbanowicz, Nicholas Warren, Hunter Zacharias

It was fifty years ago that he first graced the halls of Atikokan High School. After four years of teaching in Southern Ontario, he came north with a freshly minted Masters in geography. He became



Mike Lewis

a principal here, then director of education, before moving on to Elliot Lake as a director. He returned and has been a trustee with the school board for the past six years.

Teachers Ryan Bryk and Carly Skrenski were joined by principal Beth Fairfield and vice-principal Brad Gascoigne to present the diplomas. Teachers Ed Ojala and Shane Fiore headed up the presentation of scholarships and awards, close to \$40,000 worth.



One of the busier and more generous presenters during the evening was Bob Moffatt, who gave twelve graduates each a \$500 scholarship from his family foundation. Moffatt has been recognizing AHS graduates with cash awards for decades.