

Congratulations to This Year's Scholarship Winners.



Kyle Glen Turpin is entering the Honors Physics Program at the University of Alberta which will provide him with a strong foundation to build a career in the field of science, in particular physics research.

Kyle has been interested in science since he was five and recalls participating in a gravity experiment that posed the question 'if an egg

and watermelon were dropped from the same height at the same time, which one would hit the ground first?' He was amazed at the result which sparked his overwhelming curiosity for scientific discovery.

Kyle volunteered at the Pigeon Lake Regional School cafeteria preparing and serving food as part of the affordable healthy meals for students' initiative and has tutored fellow students in science and math. He has been involved with the Brightview Community Church worship band for over eight years and participates as a singer and guitarist.

His reference letter from his high school science teacher states: Kyle has been an exemplary learner and is an extremely bright energetic young man with a consistent positive attitude. She says, "Kyle has also caused a positive change in our community school. He has single-handedly sparked a wave through his 'pay-it-forward' mantra, throughout our staff and school population."

The West Wetaskiwin REA wishes Kyle the very best in his pursuit of scientific discovery.



Keogan Blouin plans to pursue an honors degree in behavioral neuroscience – the study of how environment-behavior relationships are established and represented in the nervous system.

She is registered at the University of British Columbia whose state-of-the-art facilities will provide her with ample opportunity to

be totally involved with their research and gain valuable first hand knowledge as she progresses through her studies. Successful completion of this program will launch a career in the medical field, where she will pursue her dreams to be a surgeon; a goal she has had since early childhood.

Keogan was very active in organizing and running numerous events at her school. She is a dancer and as part of a group, she also volunteers as a demonstrator helping girls and boys find their potential in dance. When her younger brother started to play lacrosse and she learned the association was short a coach, she stepped up to be a lacrosse mini tyke coach. Helping young people embrace team work and gain confidence in social settings is important to her.

Her letter of reference states that she is a motivated and responsible person with a high degree of integrity. She is articulate, patient and a self starter – attributes that will serve her well as she pursues a career in medicine.

Keogan noted in her application letter that she understood our task of selecting applicants was a difficult one – we think that empathy will serve her well as she pursues her dream to be a surgeon.

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Energy Saving Opportunities for Winter Energy Efficiency

Eliminate drafts

While windows and doors are the most likely culprits creating drafts in your home, don't forget to check anywhere connected to the outside, including your basement, attic, and exterior walls. For windows, the seal is tightest when they are locked and/or closed properly and if any daylight is visible underneath your doors, that indicates you might need new weather-stripping. Other major causes for cold drafts include exterior pipes and drains, electrical wall outlets, and chimneys. Make sure everything is sealed and add caulking where necessary. Don't forget your attic, just in case you need to update your insulation or add a seal to the attic door.

Use the sunshine and daylight

While it might not seem like the sun actually creates heat in the middle of an Alberta winter, it is still able to warm a house up a few degrees during a bright sunny day. Make sure to open your blinds and curtains when the sun comes up to let in as much sunshine as possible. Conversely after the sun goes down, close the curtains to keep the warmth inside. Additionally, natural lighting will allow you to reduce the need to turn on room lights.

Clean your furnace

A regularly cleaned and serviced furnace is not only more energy-efficient, but will also help slow down the accumulation of dust. Check the filter in your furnace regularly and replace it whenever it is dirty. Unclogged furnaces have better air circulation capabilities and don't have to work as hard. Also make sure all your vents and heating registers are clean and free from obstructions.

Manage systems efficiently

Set the thermostat between 18°C and 20°C before bed and/or reduce the temperature if you are out of the house for the day. When properly set, a thermostat can significantly reduce heating costs. A programmable thermostat can facilitate that task automatically, so take the time to set it properly and/or consider investing in one.

Avoid overusing exhaust fans such as bathroom fans and oven hoods. These items are often overlooked sources of heat loss in the winter. Use your exhaust fans sparingly, and turn them off when not in use to ensure your home's warmth isn't being pulled out of the house.

Reverse your ceiling fan's blade rotation. Chances are you've never thought about what direction your fan is spinning, but the blades' rotation can actually help you save on your winter heating bill. Hot air rises, so setting your fan's blades to a clockwise rotation will help push that warm air back down to you.



Regulated
Rate
Option



The Regulated Rate Option (RRO) may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For October 2020, the RRO is priced at \$0.06696 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For November 2020, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.06595.

Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).

Information on West Wetaskiwin REA's Code of Conduct Regulation Compliance Plan can be found on our website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com