

Achieving the Dream Through Education Charity

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACHIEVING THE DREAM THROUGH EDUCATION CHARITY CELEBRATES YOUTH SUCCESS AT AWARDS CEREMONY

Thunder Bay, ON — Yesterday, Achieving the Dream Through Education (ATDTE) Charity proudly cohosted the 2025 *Matawa Post-Secondary Graduate Recognition, Bowmanville and Achieving the Dream Through Education Recognition Event* to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of dozens of Matawa First Nation students.

"We are proud to celebrate the incredible students who continue to inspire us with their dedication and perseverance," said ATDTE President Ennis Jacob of Webequie First Nation. "These awards are not only a recognition of their achievements but a reminder that when community and supporters come together, we can truly empower youth to achieve their biggest dreams."

ATDTE honoured the outstanding academic and personal achievements of 30 Matawa youth who won an award through the charity. A total of \$30,000 in scholarships, bursaries, and awards were presented at the event held at the Matawa Education and Care Centre for the second consecutive year.

The annual event celebrates the hard work, resilience, and academic achievements of Matawa students from all nine Matawa First Nation communities. The ceremony brought together students, families, educators, community members and supporters to honour the positive steps Matawa youth are taking toward their educational and career goals.

Among the guests attending this year's celebration was longtime donor and supporter Jamie Campbell, well-known host of Blue Jays Central, whose ongoing commitment to Matawa Education initiatives has played a vital role in supporting Indigenous student success. Campbell's presence highlighted the strong partnerships that make these awards possible.

The awards are made possible in thanks to the generous contributions from several dedicated donors and partners who continue to believe in the power of education as a pathway to opportunity, leadership, and self-determination.

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For more information, please contact Charnel Anderson, Communications Generalist – Matawa First Nations at (807) 621-9405 or by email at <u>canderson@matawa.on.ca</u>.



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