



# 2026 SCHOLARSHIP PACKAGE

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**OMDREB ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP**



**The Oakville, Milton**  
and District Real Estate Board

# WELCOME



The Oakville, Milton  
and District Real Estate Board

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in The Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board's (OMDREB) Annual Scholarship. It is my pleasure to provide the bright young minds of our local communities an opportunity to alleviate a small piece of the financial burden that comes with post-secondary education. Simultaneously, OMDREB's scholarship aims to play a role in raising awareness of issues that impact the lives of our family, friends, and community.

As a REALTOR®, I take great pride in assisting individuals and families with the biggest decision and transaction they will make in their lives: finding their dream home. REALTORS® are not just real estate professionals, they are neighbourhood experts, striving to become a pillar in the communities in which they live. Part of this service is charitable work, volunteerism, and giving back. Part of how OMDREB gives back is through this Annual Scholarship Program.

I am happy to say that for over seven decades, The Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board has assisted REALTORS® in extending this outreach by providing a vehicle for social responsibility. By participating in the REALTORS Care® Foundation, it enables OMDREB to support multiple local charities in addition to the annual President's Charity. This year, as President I have chosen to support a charity that is special to me: Support House. You will encounter some themes throughout this year's scholarship essay choices that reflect the work Support House does.

Thank you for choosing to participate in the OMDREB Annual Scholarship, and I look forward to reading your essay.

**Heidi Noel**  
2026 OMDREB President



# ABOUT

## SUPPORT HOUSE



Support House is a community-based non-profit with more than 42 years of experience providing supportive housing, access to healthcare, peer support, and outreach services across Halton Region.

Guided by the belief that everyone has the right to housing and healthcare, Support House delivers person-directed, inclusive supports for individuals with complex mental health, substance use, housing, and health needs, grounded in dignity, safety, and strong community connection.

# ABOUT

## OMDREB ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

OMDREB's Annual Scholarship provides students in our communities an opportunity to demonstrate their drive and passion to excel both inside and outside of the classroom. Each year, our winning students are rewarded for their innovative, thought-provoking submissions that demonstrate their understanding of the various challenges facing the Halton community by putting a spotlight on societal and housing issues that affect us all- particularly through themes that reflect our President's Charity.



OMDREB would also like to acknowledge the Mayor of Oakville, Mr. Rob Burton and the Mayor of Milton, Mr. Gordon Krantz who have graciously supported our Annual Scholarship Program each year.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION:

In order to have your application considered, please submit your written essay using the following formatting guidelines:

- Minimum 1,000 to maximum 1,500 words, typed, double spaced.
- Use Calibri size 12 font.
- Have your margins set to 2.54cm all around.
- Please ensure your submission is no longer than a maximum of 6 pages.
- **Use of Artificial Intelligence platforms, such as ChatGPT or Co-Pilot, is strictly prohibited.**  
Essays must be written in the student's own words, with citations included where necessary.

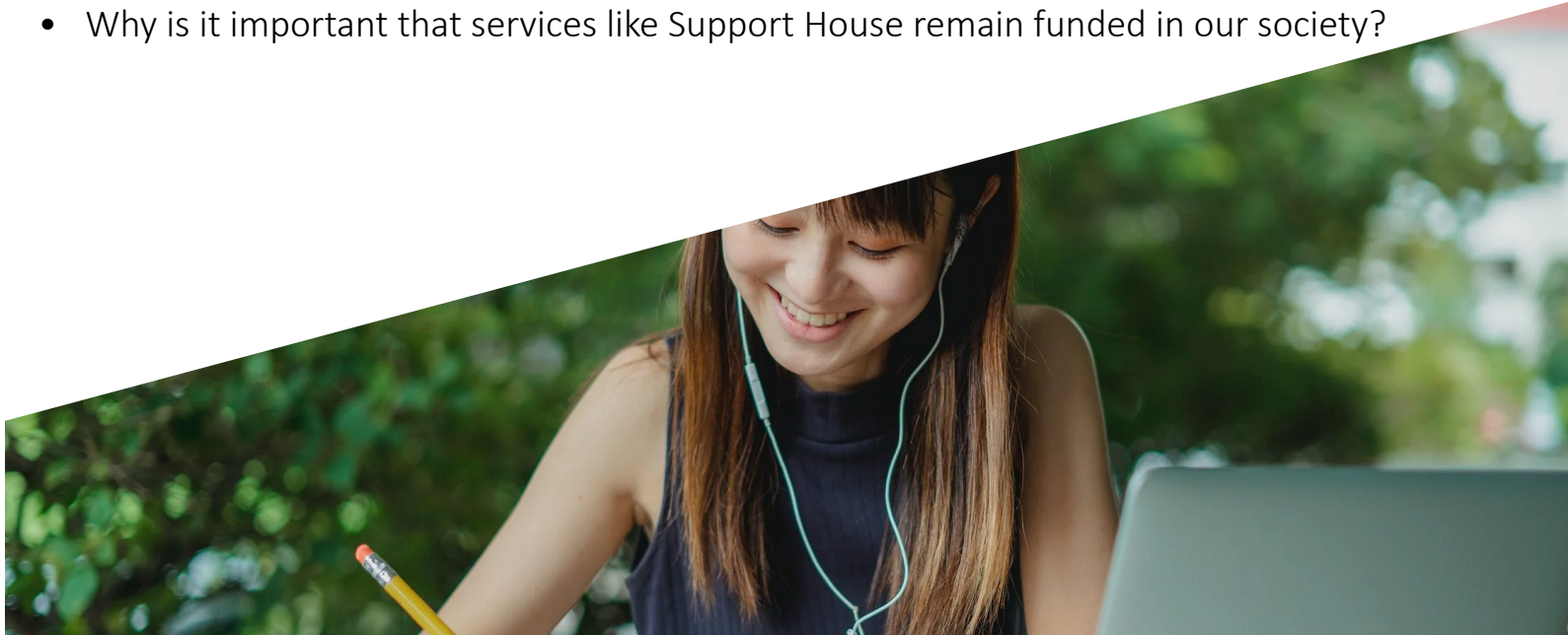
Up to Five (5) scholarships will be awarded in 2026. Each winner will receive \$2,000.

**Note:** If at any stage you require accommodation, please let us know prior to the application deadline and we will work with you to support your accessibility needs.



## SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ESSAY TOPICS

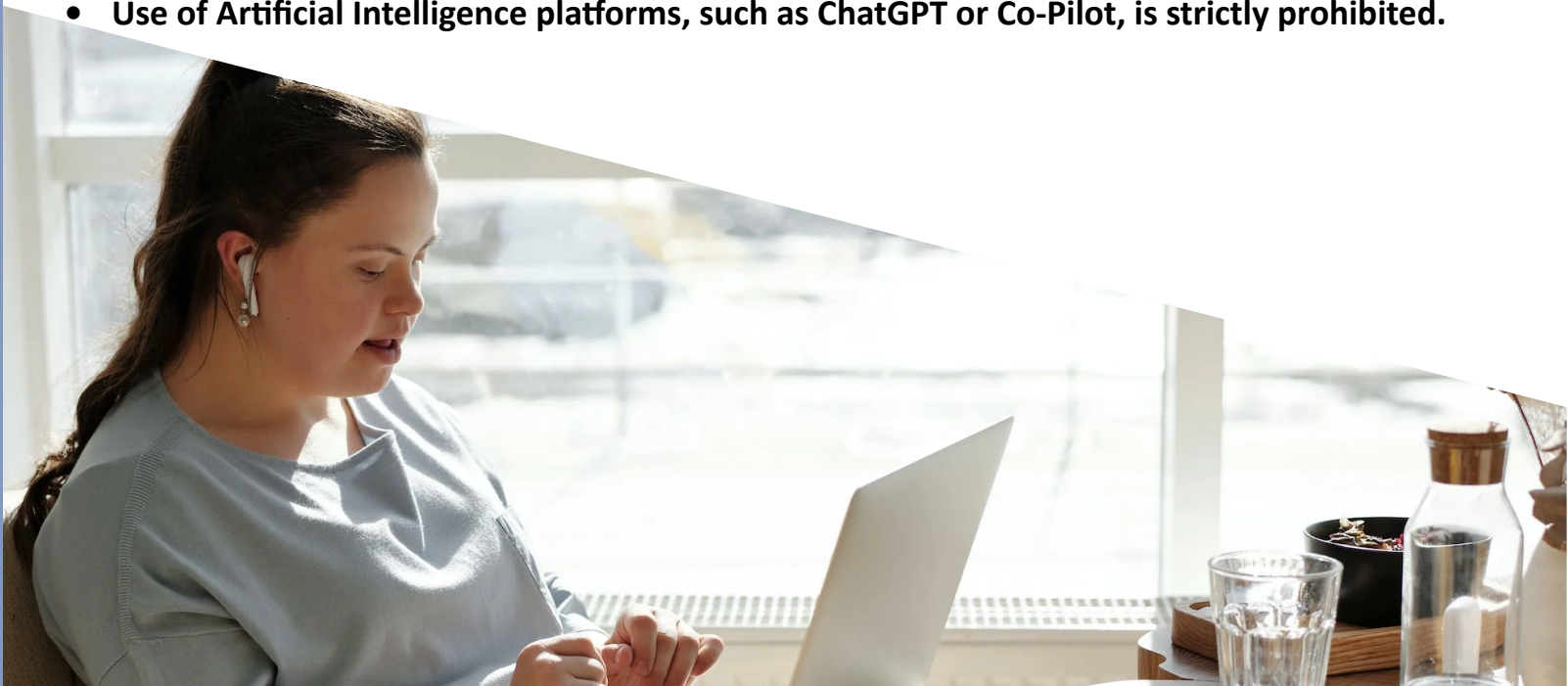
- How can stable housing contribute to improved mental health and well-being?
- What responsibility do communities have to support vulnerable populations when it comes to housing?
- The cost of housing has been a hot topic in recent years, and industry advocates work so that affordability remains top of mind when governments consider housing legislation. If you had the opportunity to personally sit down with the Prime Minister, what actionable items would you suggest implementing to further moderate home prices?
- What challenges do young people face when imagining their future in the Halton Region? Discuss housing affordability and availability, using rentals as a stepping stone to homeownership, or changing community needs, and how those challenges could be addressed.
- Why is it important that services like Support House remain funded in our society?



# DETAILS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Completed application package emailed to [communications@omdreb.ca](mailto:communications@omdreb.ca) on or before Thursday, April 30, 2026 by 11:59pm
- Two brief letters of reference (including current contact information for each reference). References cannot be from relatives.
- Current academic transcript(s) from all secondary schools attended. Scans of transcripts are sufficient.
- Proof of enrollment to a post-secondary institution (which can be remitted when available).
- Written essay with a minimum 1,000 to maximum 1,500 words, typed, double spaced at a maximum of 6 pages. Please use Calibri size 12 font and have your margins set to 2.54cm all around.
- A referenced bibliography (where necessary).
- **Use of Artificial Intelligence platforms, such as ChatGPT or Co-Pilot, is strictly prohibited.**



# DETAILS

## THE FINE PRINT

You may enter one essay per topic if you choose, however, each applicant cannot be awarded more than one scholarship. Only one application is required. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Group essay applications/submissions will not be accepted. Essay submissions must be made by an individual only.

All essays must be submitted in English.

**It is the applicant's sole responsibility to ensure that there is no plagiarism, Artificial Intelligence (AI), or copyright infringement in the submitted essay(s). Plagiarized and AI-generated material will result in an automatic disqualification which will be determined by OMDREB's sole discretion.**

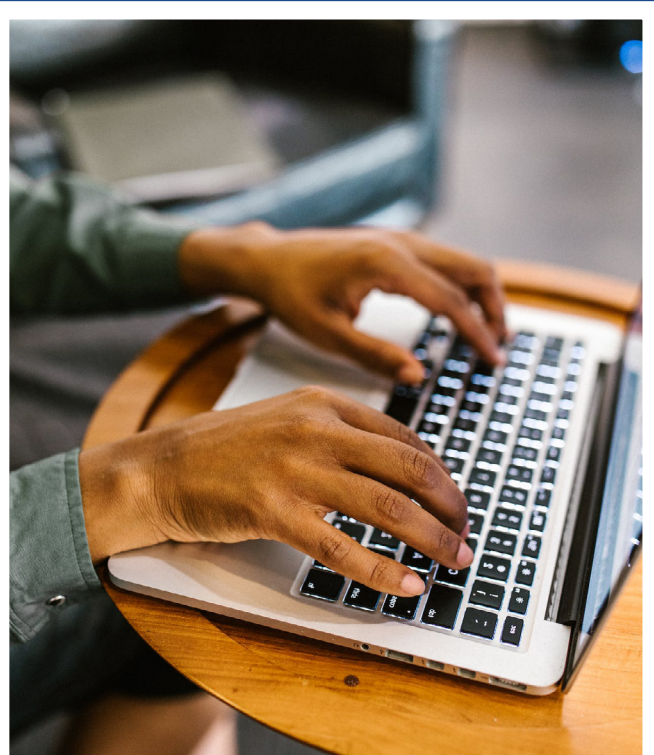
The OMDREB Annual Scholarship is open to graduating high school students residing locally and registered with a secondary school within OMDREB's jurisdiction ([found here](#)), or whose parent / guardian is a REALTOR® with The Oakville, Milton District Real Estate Board.

**Note:** Applicants are ONLY eligible in their graduating year of High school, entering their first year of post secondary.

Essay submissions will be judged by an independent panel of judges.

To maintain fairness and anonymity, applicant and secondary school names will be removed from all essay submissions that are presented to the panel of judges.

**Scholarship award recipients will be contacted by end of day Monday, June 1, 2026 concerning the status of their submission. Please note that if you do not receive a response to your application by this date, you are not considered an award recipient.**



# DETAILS

## AWARD INFORMATION

**A SCHOLARSHIP OF \$2,000 WILL BE AWARDED TO EACH WINNER AT A VIRTUAL PRESENTATION HOSTED BY THE OAKVILLE, MILTON AND DISTRICT REAL ESTATE BOARD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026.**



The decision of the panel of judges is final and is not subject to an appeal. Please note, if any information provided by the applicant is determined by OMDREB to be inaccurate or misleading, the submission will be disqualified.

OMDREB may cancel or revoke any awarded grant in its sole discretion. The applicant will be required to reimburse the amount of the grant immediately.

**All applications must be submitted electronically via email by Thursday, April 30, 2026 by 11:59pm.**

**No late submissions will be considered.**





# DETAILS

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST



### SUBMISSIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- ☐ Showing knowledge, analysis and perspective of the topic.
- ☐ Originality in approach and treatment of topic.
- ☐ Grammatical accuracy and organization of essay/content.
- ☐ Adherence to format and length rules.

### MUST-HAVES

- ☐ Completed application package emailed on or before Thursday, April 30, 2026 by 11:59pm to [communications@omdreb.ca](mailto:communications@omdreb.ca).
- ☐ Two brief letters of reference (including current contact information for each reference). References cannot be from relatives.
- ☐ Current academic transcript(s) from all secondary schools attended. Scans of transcripts are sufficient.
- ☐ Proof of enrollment to a post-secondary institution (which can be remitted when available).
- ☐ Written essay with a minimum 1,000 to maximum 1,500 words, typed, double spaced at a maximum of 6 pages. Please use Calibri size 12 font and have your margins set to 2.54cm all around.
- ☐ A referenced bibliography (where necessary).

**Note: A minimum scoring standard is in effect. If this minimum standard is not met, The Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board reserves the right to not award any or all of the five (5) scholarships.**

If at any stage you require accommodation, please let us know prior to the application deadline and we will work with you to support your accessibility needs.