



VERNA J. KIRKNESS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**VIRTUAL
PROGRAM**

2022
Application Package

Apply Now

Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program

The VJKF Program offers Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) high school students in grade 10, 11, and 12 an opportunity to spend one week conducting research in the fields of science and engineering during the month of May. As one of our Kirkness scholars, you'll work with university professors and graduate students from a participating Canadian university on a particular area of science, engineering, technology, or math.

VJKF Program Details

- All expenses are paid if you are accepted into the Program.
- As part of our application process you will select which Program week you would like to attend. Our **Western Canada Program** is held during the week of May 2–6, and our **Eastern Canada Program** is held during the week of May 9–13.
- Sample Program week is included in this package; however, for most up to date Program details, please [visit our website](#).
- You will require a computer and wifi access for the Program. (Please let us know if you require assistance to access our Program. We're here to help.)
- On the final afternoon of the Program, your group will make a presentation about your learnings from the lab for the week. Don't worry there's lots of group time to build a successful presentation.
- You are asked to attend our evening sessions and certification celebration on Thursday night.

Program Benefits

There are **NO**
fees to attend a
VJKF Program.



Conduct research

You'll have the opportunity to learn about one of your top three selected research areas.



Campus life

Get a taste of university life. Work with professors and attend campus tours.



Receive swag

This year's program includes, swag bags, prizes, games, and team activities.



Receive certificate

Every student who completes our program receives a certificate of completion.



Expand your knowledge

You'll have an opportunity to learn about science research happening at universities.



Indigenous on campus services

See what service and supports are in place for students on campus.



Build your resume

Attending the VJKF program is a noteworthy accomplishment to put on your resume.



Hands-on science

Students in this year's program will receive science kits to complete experiments.



Have your questions answered

You'll have an opportunity to ask questions about university and campus life.



Meet friends

Meet VJKF Ambassadors and talk with other students from across Canada.



Hear guest speakers

We have a line-up of amazing guest speakers for this year's event.



Scholarship Opportunities

Students who complete the VJKF Program are eligible to apply for a VJKF scholarship to attend a post secondary institution.

Become a Kirkness Scholar APPLY TODAY!

Thanks to our generous donors our program is offered to Indigenous students FREE of charge. For further details about our program and application process, [please visit our website](http://www.vernakirkness.org).



VJKF
VERNA J. KIRKNESS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION



info@vjkf.org
www.vernakirkness.org



587.814.0444
1.888.647.1701



VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2022

May 2–6 WEST Program (PDT)
May 9–13 EAST Program (EDT)

2022 Virtual Program Agenda*					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00–8:15	VJKF Welcome with students	Group Zoom	Group Zoom	Group Zoom	Group Zoom
8:15–8:45		Scholarship opportunities	Scholarship opportunities	The Magic of Science	Group Work
8:45–9:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
9:00–9:20	VJKF Welcome, Elder Prayers	Class/Lab 1 hour	Class/Lab 1 Hour	Class/Lab 1 Hour	Class/Lab 1 Hour
9:20–10:00	Week Introductions and icebreakers				
10:00–10:15	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:15–11:15	Virtual Tours of Universities	Class/Lab 1 hour 45 min	Class/Lab 1 hour 45 min	Class/Lab 1 hour 45 min	Class/Lab 1 hour 45 min
11:15–12:00	Hands on Science Group Activity				
LUNCH: 12:00–12:30					
12:30–1:30	Class/Lab 1 hour	Concurrent sessions with Universities 1hour 30min	Hands on Science Group Activity	KEYNOTE speaker	GROUP presentations
1:30–1:45	Break		Break	Break	Break
1:45–2:00	Class/Lab 30 min		Group Work	Group Work	GROUP presentations
2:00–2:15		Break			
2:15–2:30	Group Zoom	Group Zoom	Group Zoom	Group Zoom	
5:00–6:00				Certificate celebration	
6:00–7:00	Guest Speaker & Evening activity	Guest Speaker & Evening activity	Group Work		

* Agenda subject to change.



VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

**VIRTUAL
PROGRAM**

2022 APPLICATION FORM for the **VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION PROGRAM**

The VJKF Program offers Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) high school students in grade 10, 11, and 12 an opportunity to spend one week conducting research in the fields of science and engineering during the month of May. Please call our office at 587-814-0444 should you have questions.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1, 2022

All applications and supporting materials must be received before the deadline.

Completed applications can be received by:

Mail: Verna J. Kirkness Foundation
Attn: Application committee
P.O. Box 1681,
Cochrane, AB, T4C 1B6
Email: morgan.laboucan@vjkf.org

Students can also apply online at:

www.vernakirkness.org

ENSURE YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE AND INCLUDES:

COMPLETED (TYPED) APPLICATION, INCLUDING SIGNED CONSENT FROM PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Please check here (if you do not have a scanner) to indicate that you will be mailing your Parental Consent separate from the emailed application.

REFERENCE LETTER FROM YOUR TEACHER OR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING WITH YOUR TEACHER OR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Fill in the required fields on this application or apply online.

Print the consent form on page 5. Complete, sign, and email or mail to the address noted above.



VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PART 1 – STUDENT INFORMATION

First Name:				Last Name:			
Gender:	M	F	Other	Preferred language:	French	English	
Pronouns:	Him/his	She/her	They/them	Date of Birth:	(Day/Month/Year)		
I am:	Status First Nation	Non-Status First Nation	Inuit	Métis	I'm currently in grade:		
Email (Personal):				Email (School):			
Phone (home):				Cellphone:			
Street Address:							
City:			Province:	Postal Code:			
Check box if mailing and street address are the same							
Mailing Address:							
City:			Province:	Postal Code:			
My school day starts at:	AM and ends at		PM.				

PART 1 – PARENT/GUARDIAN AND TEACHER/COUNSELLOR INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name:

Email:

Best contact phone number:

Teacher/Counsellor referring and submitting application:

Teacher/Counsellor phone number:

Teacher/Counsellor email:

Name of High School:



VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PART 3 — PROGRAM CHOICE (for online virtual programs)

Please choose if you'd like to participate in our West Program (PDT) or our East Program (EDT). In March, we will let all students know which universities are participating and the classes they are holding with our students. We will try and match students with their research preferences, but sometimes this isn't always possible.

For now, we are asking you to choose which program week you would like to be part of.

WEST Program (PDT), May 2–6, 2022

EAST Program (EDT), May 9–13, 2022

PART 4 — REFERENCE

ASK YOUR TEACHER OR GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR TO WRITE A LETTER OF REFERENCE AND LIST THEIR NAME BELOW. Check the guidelines on the website for further information.

Name of Reference:

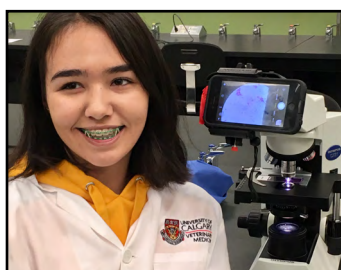
Email:

Phone Number:

PART 5 — UPDATES

Help us keep our records current while you attend school. This information is crucial in helping us apply for additional funding for the VJKF Program, which will allow more Indigenous students to attend our program in the future.

FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM, I AGREE TO PROVIDE THE VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION WITH SHORT WRITTEN UPDATES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS ABOUT MY ONGOING EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.





PART 6—ESSAY

In a maximum of 400 (TYPED) words, please explain why you are interested in attending the Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program. This essay is the most important part of the application. The more information you provide, the better chance you have of being accepted. Applications with less than 50 words will not be accepted.



PART 7 – PARENTAL CONSENT

I _____ understand that _____ has applied to participate in the Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program (hereinafter called the “Program”) that includes lectures with professors from participating Program universities.

I understand that participation in the Program will involve:

- 1) the applicant spending one week online and working as part of a research team from a university;
- 2) as part of the participation in the Program, the applicant working with a research team from their home, for which they will be provided with materials and basic safety training as arranged by the Program;
- 3) during their involvement the applicant may be mentored and supervised primarily by a graduate student;
- 4) there are learning activities in the evenings that will require their attendance.

I understand that there are certain expectations regarding the applicant’s conduct during their involvement in the Program, which will be explained to the applicant.

These expectations include:

- The applicant following the instructions given to them by the mentor or lab supervisor.
- The applicant following all safety protocols in place during the Program.
- The applicant conducting themselves in a respectful and mature manner at all times.
- The consumption of alcohol or illegal substances throughout their participation in the Program is strictly prohibited.
- Violation of any of the above rules may result in the applicant being asked to leave the Program.

I understand that participation in the Program may involve the applicant coming into close proximity with, and working with scientific apparatuses and/or materials that may be dangerous if mishandled. I understand that all participants will be asked to complete a survey at the end of the Program. I further understand that, if the applicant is accepted to participate in the Program, I will be required to sign a situation specific consent form prior to their participation fully indemnifying the host university, as well as the Program planners, administrators and personnel from any and all liability for any injury which may be suffered by the applicant during their participation. Having read the above, I consent to the applicant’s submission of an application to participate in the Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program.

Signature

Date (day-month-year)

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Relationship to Applicant

Best Contact Number:

Email:



VERNA J. KIRKNESS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Our Partner Universities



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY



FIRST NATIONS
UNIVERSITY
of CANADA



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



UNIVERSITY OF
ALBERTA



University
of Victoria



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY



KWANTLEN
POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY



University
of Manitoba



McGill
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



Queen's
UNIVERSITY



uOttawa