

September, 2010

Dear friends:

I would like to take this time to give thanks to the READ Saskatoon team for considering me for this award. I found great pleasure in the thoughtfulness of their decision.



I remember my first day as a participant of the Project Ready program quite nerve racking, it was back in two thousand and five that I joined and from the program I gained new friends and plenty of certificates that now still plaster my walls. I have always been a very determined aboriginal woman, when I joined I was pregnant with my second child and anticipating the outcome of what I was going to walk away with.

I finished the program and I went on to becoming a teacher's assistant for a year at the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Elementary School. This was the experience that I needed to understand more of what my future held for me. During that year I had become more aware of the many options that I had. So I applied to the Youth Care Worker Certificate program at SIAST Kelsey Campus. I received my certificate and instead of going back for the second year where I would of walked across the stage to receive my diploma in the same course I noticed another door opening for me.



I just finished my first year in Indian Social Work at the First Nations University of Canada, I had found what I dreamed I would do for the rest of my life. I will continue on to my upcoming years with every possible eagerness I can.

As I sat down to write this letter, I realized that throughout my years of learning and almost giving up on myself so many times I have so many more years of learning to come. I would like to give thanks once again for the women of READ Saskatoon for coming into my life and giving me that push that I needed. You are all appreciated and will always be a part of education career.

Sincerely Yours

Margaret Bear