



## The Landon Pearson Centre for the Study of Childhood and Children's Rights at Carleton University Invites Applications

### 2025-26 Dr. Joy Calkin \$5,000 Student Award for Indigenous Students

**Deadline: April 1, 2026**

#### **ABOUT THE AWARD:**

The Dr. Joy Calkin student award (\$5,000 each) supports a senior Indigenous student (4<sup>th</sup> year undergraduate degree in Fall 2026 or graduate student, any year) working in an academic program or advocacy work focusing on children's and young people's lives and/or children's rights. Preference will be given to students studying early childhood and children's rights (generally children under six years of age).

The award is open to:

- Senior undergraduate Indigenous students (entering 4<sup>th</sup> year in Fall 2026), or
- Graduate Indigenous students (any year)

Any discipline is eligible as long as student's work addresses a rights-related issue experienced by children and young people for their **capstone projects, honours theses, graduate theses, or advocacy initiatives**. Examples of eligible topics include - but are not limited to:

- Children and caring environments
- Digital Lives
- Children's rights education and schooling
- Climate driven disasters
- Identity and belonging
- Child welfare
- Food insecurity
- Mental health
- Forced migration and mobility
- Living with disability
- Gender-based violence and harmful practices
- Child and family policies

**If you are working on a topic that is rights-related but not listed here, we still want to hear from you!**

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

1. First Nations, Métis, or Inuit students enrolled in child and youth rights-related degree program
2. Enrolled full time at a Canadian University
3. Entering 4<sup>th</sup> year of an undergraduate program in Fall 2026, or a Graduate student (any year)

#### **USE OF FUNDS**

The \$5000 award may be used for : Education-related expenses: tuition, purchasing books, school materials, costs incurred to attend school such as living expenses. Up to \$500 can be used toward travel costs to attend the Child Rights Academic Network (CRAN) meeting in Ottawa, Ontario on April 24, 2026, to receive their award or you can attend virtually. A limited portion of the funds may be used to attend a conference to present a paper.

## **APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Please send one pdf to: [LandonPearsonCentre@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:LandonPearsonCentre@cunet.carleton.ca)

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING 4 DOCUMENTS:

### **1. Project Description (up to 600 words)**

#### **Option A: Research Project**

Describe a rights-related research project you will complete as part of your undergraduate or graduate program. Include:

- Research question(s)
- Objectives
- Methods
- Potential outcomes
- A brief timeline

**OR**

#### **Option B: Advocacy Project**

Describe the rights-related issue you will examine. Include:

- Why the issue is timely
- Relevant context
- Preliminary literature
- Your plan and timeline for completing the work

### **2. Children's Rights Connection Statement (up to 300 words)**

Explain how your project or research is informed by a **rights-respecting approach**, such as the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**.

### **3. Curriculum Vitae or Resume**

### **4. Academic Reference Letter**

- On official letterhead and Signed (include in PDF or sent separately)
- **Eligibility for the award must be confirmed in the academic letter of recommendation.**

If you are driven and committed to **making the world a better place for children and young people**, we strongly encourage you to apply for this educational support.

Your ideas, experiences, and perspectives matter!

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