

NEWS RELEASE  
August 24, 2010

### **UVic Student Awarded Premier's One World Scholarship**

Victoria – University of Victoria student Brittney O'Neill is the recipient of a \$20,000 Premier's One World Scholarship for study abroad announced Hugh Gordon, chair of the Irving K. Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society today.

"This scholarship supports BC students to become global citizens, and encourages the international exchange of knowledge and culture", said Gordon.

O'Neill is a third year student at the University of Victoria, studying Chinese language and linguistics. She will be using her Premier's Scholarship to study in the Chinese language program at East China Normal University in Shanghai.

Premier's One World scholarships are funded from the returns on a \$13 million endowment fund established by the Province for international education. To date, seven Premier's scholarships and 335 other One World scholarships of \$1,000 to \$10,000 have been awarded to support students in pursuing post-secondary education abroad.

"These scholarships recognize that, in our increasingly interconnected world, it is important to support students in their studies abroad," said Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development Moira Stilwell. "They will gain fresh perspectives, exchange ideas and learn from other cultures – important skills needed by tomorrow's leaders."

The Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society, in partnership with the Victoria Foundation, provides scholarships to students attending public post-secondary institutions in B.C. and internationally. The Society has awarded almost \$2.5 million in scholarships to date.

For more information about this scholarship, the Society's other scholarship programs, or to donate to the international scholarships endowment fund, visit [www.bcscholarship.ca](http://www.bcscholarship.ca) or call the Victoria Foundation at 250-381-5532.

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Recipient bio below

## **2009 Premier's One World Scholarship Recipient**

### **Brittney O'Neill, Fort St. John**

Brittney is a third year student at the University of Victoria, studying Chinese language and linguistics. She will be using her Premier's Scholarship to study in the Chinese language program at East China Normal University in Shanghai.

In addition to exceptional academic results, Brittney has years of volunteer experience both in her field of study and others. In her hometown library in Fort St. John, Brittney helped children struggling with literacy, and has worked to improve the reading and writing skills of immigrant students.

Research projects, international aid (such as helping to build a school in El Salvador), fundraising, student advisory groups and tolerance promotion through workshops, presentations and committee work are also on Brittney's list of volunteer achievements.

Brittney is also a poet and has published two academic papers. She plans to work as a language teacher before moving on to graduate studies in linguistics and humanitarian work.



Photo Courtesy of UVic