# **Nic**hole Thomson Memorial Award

Updated May 2025

## **Background**

This award has been established in memory of Nicole Thomson, a leader and parent involved with the South Malahat 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Club. Nicole passed away in January 2012 of pancreatic cancer at the age of 41. Nicole was a strong supporter of the 4-H program in every way. Although she was an exemplary parent, she often said that she could not take credit for all the life skills her daughters had obtained, as she knew that 4-H had been such a positive influence in her daughters' lives.

**Funding and Purpose**

This award has been made available through donations made in Nicole Thomson's name. The amount of $100.00 will be awarded to a 4-H member who requires financial assistance for any 4-H camp attended in the current year.

**Eligibility**

This award is open to 4-H members currently enrolled in clubs in the South Malahat 4-H Council area. Winners of this award are not eligible to reapply for two years. The member must have been registered in 4-H for at least two years and must follow the procedures below for selection.

**Selection procedures:**

1. Members must submit a small essay (minimum two paragraphs) to a Key Leader by ***the September District Council Meeting*** to be considered for that year’s award. The essay topic should discuss the following: how 4-H has contributed to the person you are today
2. Applications made by disabled members may be made orally, which is then submitted to the committee;
3. All factual information will be confirmed by the member’s leader and/or the Regional office.
4. The selection is to be made by a panel of judges consisting of district council members, and/or, in future, members of the Thomson family, if they wish. In the case of fairly evenly matched applicants, the decision of the panel is final.

e) The applicant’s essay should be considered with regard to the member’s age and abilities.

**Selection and Payment**

Selection is to be made in ***October*** and notification will be sent out promptly to all applicants – if the applicant is unable to attend ***District Awards Night***, the cheque may be presented to a mutually acceptable other person (e.g. parents or guardians).