

To: William H. McGannon Foundation

Re: Canadian Risk and Insurance Management Society Conference (CRIMS)

I would like to start off by saying thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend the CRIMS Conference in Edmonton. My overall experience at the conference has been positive. This was my first CRIMS conference and surely it will not be my last. It was a great learning and networking experience. I am thankful to all the runners who attended the McGannon Run in raising funds for future students. I appreciate that there are scholarships and student funding available for students to attend these conferences. This year four students were given the student funding to attend the conference. I have enjoyed my time with the other three students and look forward collaborating events with Mount Royal University and University of Calgary, and remaining a close contact with the students. Sitting in the McGannon board meeting gave me the chance to meet the different board members and their role in making the foundation better each year.

Thank you to all the mentors that helped us during the conference, whether having lunch with us or introducing us to industry professionals. Through networking with all the different companies at the conference, I have collected many business cards that will potentially lead me to my future career and contacts. The overall set up of the conference was done nicely. I enjoyed how breakfast and lunch was set up in the conference hall with various sitting places throughout the hall. It gave me the opportunity to chat with the different attendees and companies. I would recommend giving students a registration guidebook of a list of all the companies at the conference.

The most difficult part of the conference was choosing which sessions to attend since there were many options available within limited time frame. The guest speakers at the conference and the topics discussed were really interesting. These sessions and speakers provide a different learning experience than school because of the different attendee perspectives on the current issues and topics relating to risk and insurance field at a higher learning level.

I enjoyed that every day was filled with activity because it kept us busy and active. The mentors ensured that we were perfectly attended too by inviting us to various client dinners. As a risk management and insurance student, I definitely felt the welcome from the mentors and people at the conference. I am grateful that each individual I met gave me helpful advice and guidance to my future career path.

For future students, I would encourage them to visit every company booth to get yourself recognize. The people you meet during the conference can be your potential employer, client or contact. Also, do not skip out on any of the sessions, client dinner parties or after parties because this is where you make a more personal connection with the people there. At the conference hall, I got the opportunity to register for a student RIMS account. I highly recommend the student to sign up for a RIMS account since it is

free and a way to stay connected with news and events related to the risk and insurance industry.

Again, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to attend CRIMS. I would like to keep in contact with the McGannon Foundation and help out in any ways through student involvement or volunteer basis.

Sincerely,

Connie Vu