



NEWS RELEASE

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Our Mission:
To enlighten and educate Ontario university and college students to the economic importance of a prosperous trucking industry, and to encourage them to consider career and job opportunities in trucking by providing recognition and financial assistance for post-secondary education for children of Ontario's trucking industry.

J. O. Goodman Award presented to McGill-Bound Student

Toronto – The OTA Education Foundation awarded the J. O. Goodman Award last month to Melanie Cosgrove, a Mississauga-based student headed to McGill University in Montreal and enrolled in the Bachelor of Science program. Melanie was chosen as the outstanding first-year university applicant by the OTA Education Foundation's Selection Committee. J. O. Goodman applicants are assessed on their secondary school academic achievement, service to community and volunteer work, extra-curricular activities, as well as an essay on the trucking industry.

"The quality of the applications for the J. O. Goodman Award this year was exceptional" says long-term selection committee member Harold Gilbert a former Deputy Minister for the Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communications. "I don't recall a year when we have seen so many deserving students".

In a field of outstanding applications, Melanie Cosgrove, a student graduating from Lorne Park Secondary School in Mississauga with an average mark of 94 %, stood out with her accomplishments. She achieved the highest marks in most, if not all, of her classes in each of her four years in high school, while participating in a diverse range of activities, such as leadership in her school's fundraiser for the Children's Wish Foundation. In addition to making the honour roll each year, she was also recognized as school Valedictorian and received the Academic Excellence Award, the Math Award, and the Cooperative Education Award.

While applying herself to her academic studies, Melanie also devoted hours of practice and world travel to train and participate in ski racing events with the International Ski Federation. "Melanie's application was strong in all of the assessment criteria, without exception" noted fellow selection committee member Michael Burke, President and CEO of the Transportation Health and Safety Association of Ontario. "As a group, we feel completely justified in awarding Melanie with the J. O. Goodman Award for the 2007/08 academic year".

The J. O. Goodman Scholarship Award winner is selected each year from all qualifying scholarship applications from students who are entering their first year post-secondary studies at a recognized university.

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The J. O. Goodman award is named for Mr. J. O. (Joe) Goodman, who for forty-four years was Senior Staff Executive of the Ontario Trucking Association (OTA). His years of service to the development of the trucking industry in Ontario and to the trucking association resulted in his being awarded the Order of Canada in 1978 along with the nickname "Mr. Trucking". Mr. Goodman was one of the moving forces behind the establishment of the Foundation, and was its Executive Director from its beginning until 1978.

The OTA Education Foundation is a charitable institution devoted to the furtherance of education for Ontario post-secondary students. Established in 1958, the Foundation was founded with the goal of providing assistance to Ontario students, regardless of their field of study, who have demonstrated a commitment to academic success, community service and who have or plan to have an affiliation with the trucking industry.