

Helen Meilleur Memorial Library Research Scholarship

2025-2026 Application

Purpose:

Helen Meilleur was born in Port Simpson, BC in 1910. In the 1920's, Helen attended a one-room schoolhouse on a First Nations reserve, where her father operated the general store. Apart from being a wife, and mother of five children, Helen also had careers in both teaching and business.

She began writing in 1967 after receiving an Indiana University scholarship for non-fiction. "Pour of Rain" was a book conceived in her childhood about life in Port Simpson (located just south of the Nass River), an area largely inhabited by the Nisga'a people, and finally published when she was 70.

In this treasure of Canadian literature, Helen provides one of the best accounts of a west coast community. She combines local history about Indian attacks, gold-seekers, missionaries and visiting royalty with her personal stories about an exciting childhood growing up in a remote community, including her acquaintances with the First Nations people and travelling to school by steamship.

Her many donations to the NVIT library have helped purchase books and build the library's collection over the years. Both, NVIT and Jeannette Matson (Helen's daughter), have generously donated a \$500 scholarship in Helen's name to recognize students' writing and library research skills.

Eligibility:

This award recognizes a full-time student in any program, at the Merritt campus, who demonstrates strong writing and library research skills.

Checklist:

Students must submit:

- a completed application form and essay, previously marked by one of their instructors, to the NVIT Library.
 - The essay must show clear and concise writing style, grammar, and structure, including proper research citation and APA style.
 - It must include an introduction, body and conclusion; ideas must flow smoothly and be consistent.
 - The student's use of referencing will also be considered.
 - The essay must include a reference page as well.

Amount:

One (1) \$500 award will be disbursed at the annual graduation ceremony. If the recipient is not graduating this year, they will be notified by email and can redeem the award by emailing awards@nvit.ca.

Deadline:

The NVIT Registration Office must receive applications by 4:30pm on March 31, 2026. If March 31st lands on a weekend, the application will be due the last business day before the deadline. Please email a copy to awards@nvit.ca or drop off the original copy at the front desk of either campus; faxes and/or photocopies will not be accepted. Reference letters must also be submitted through email to awards@nvit.ca.

Students may appeal the award decision by submitting a written letter to the awards adjudication committee attention:

Helen Meilleur Memorial Library Research Scholarship
c/o Registration Office
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
4155 Belshaw Street Merritt, BC, V1K 1R1
awards@nvit.ca



Please keep the front page for your own informational purposes.

Helen Meilleur Memorial Library Research Scholarship 2025-2026 Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
Name:		
_____	_____	_____
Last	First	Middle Initial

Permanent Mailing Address		
City: _____	Prov: _____	Postal Code: _____
Date of Birth: (yyyy/mm/dd) _____/_____/_____	Phone: (_____) _____ - _____	
Email Address: _____		
_____ - _____ - _____	_____	
S.I.N.	NVIT Student No: (if available)	

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:
Name of Program currently attending: _____
Anticipated graduation date: (month/year) _____/_____

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Declaration:
I hereby declare the information on this application is, to the best of my knowledge, complete and accurate. I acknowledge the information will be used to determine my eligibility for awards administered by NVIT and NVIT reserves the right to verify information on my application. If any of the information provided in this application should change, I understand it is my responsibly to advise the NVIT-Registrar's Office, in writing, of any such changes. Should I be awarded a scholarship, I agree my name may be released to scholarship donors, my secondary school or college, and may appear in a published list of award winners.

Signature: _____ Date: (yyyy/mm/dd) _____/_____/_____