

The Alzheimer Society of Prince Edward Island Research Award

Terms of Reference

**Value of Award:** The Alzheimer Society of Prince Edward Island Research Award will be valued at \$500.

**To start in Academic Year:** 2016/17

**Application Deadline:** Sept. 30

**Background:** The mission of the Alzheimer Society of PEI is to alleviate the personal and social consequences of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, as well as promoting the search for a cause and a cure. The Alzheimer Society of PEI has created this undergraduate research award with the goal of enhancing knowledge about the prevention, treatment, and effects of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. This award was also created to encourage students' interest in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; in addition to stimulating student research activity in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The guiding principles of the Alzheimer Society of P.E.I are:

1. **Personhood:** A standing or status that is bestowed upon one human being, by others, in the context of relationship and social being. It implies recognition, respect, and trust.
2. **Dignity and respect:** To create positive conditions where the person can live without fear of shame or ridicule; where people are treated with warmth and authenticity; listened to without judgement; and are given the opportunity for self-determination and self-expression.
3. **Acceptance and understanding:** To accept each person with unconditional positive regard; to accept behaviour as a form of communication which expresses unmet needs or emotions; and to assist the person to continue to enjoy basic personal freedoms.
4. **Relationships:** To support and preserve present relationships; to support the person in the development of other positive relationships.
5. **Recognition and individuality:** To recognize the individuality of each person with their own unique life experiences, personality, values, beliefs and opinions; to have these factors respected and incorporated in support planning.
6. **Relationships of trust:** To provide the conditions necessary to satisfy fundamental needs and create a climate for personal realization by providing a relationship based on trust. In a relationship of trust the person knows confidences are respected; choice and control is maintained; and the person will not be abandoned.

**Criteria:** Beginning in the academic year 2015/16, the Alzheimer Society of PEI Research Award will be given to an undergraduate student pursuing an honours degree at the University of Prince Edward Island who has an expressed interest in research related to Alzheimer’s disease and/or other dementias. The award is to be used by the student to enhance their research project and to cover any expenses incurred during the research project. The criteria for this award have been left open in the hope that any interested students will not be limited in the type of research they wish to undertake. However, some areas that the Alzheimer Society of P.E.I. is particularly interested in are:

- Increasing knowledge about the care of people with dementia by formal and informal caregivers.
- Exploring risk factors, behavioural and cognitive changes, physical support, or caregiving and health service delivery.
- Increasing knowledge about the experiences of traditionally underserved populations (e.g., LGBT community) with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias.
- Exploring the impact of culture on people’s experiences living with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias, or as a caregiver of someone living with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementia.
- Ways to reduce the stigma and promote the public’s awareness surrounding Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias.
- Exploring the impact of physical, mental, and/or social activity as it relates to prevention or slowing the progression of the disease.

**Application and Selection Requirements:**

1. Identification of a faculty supervisor and a letter of reference from that individual confirming the applicant’s interest and intent.
2. A summary (no more than 500 words) of the proposed project or research to be undertaken, it’s significance, and an explanation of how this award will contribute to the student’s ability to complete the research.
4. A brief synopsis (no more than 250 words) of why the care, prevention and/or cure of Alzheimer’s disease is important to the candidate

The successful applicant will be determined by an internal committee of the Alzheimer’s Society of PEI. The recipient will submit a report to the Alzheimer’s Society of PEI upon completion of the research and may be invited to present their research results to the Society.

**Contact: Applicants to submit via email to [society@alzpei.ca](mailto:society@alzpei.ca) by Sept 30.**