

# ACHIEVER SPOTLIGHT

## New Brunswick

### COLIN BROWN

#### Gold Award Achiever



[dukeofed.org/nb](http://dukeofed.org/nb)



Colin Brown, a 19 year-old resident of Grand-Bay-Westfield, currently studies at UNB in the field of chemical engineering. He achieved his Gold Award in 2016 and was presented with his Gold Award in 2017 by the former Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable David Johnston.

When Colin joined the Award program back in 2015, he recognized that the purpose of the program was to provide young people with a healthy balance in their life. Although the adventurous journey turned out to be his favorite section, he admits it was harder than he expected. Colin chose to hike the Fundy Footpath, known to New Brunswickers as a strenuous but rewarding adventure. He remembered his favorite moment of the trip as “laying on my back at night looking up at the sky, thinking that I had never seen a sky lit up so brightly with stars. I don’t think that is something I will ever forget”. Without phones, computers, or tv, the group was able to make personal connections and learn how teamwork benefits each individual and the group as a whole.

The Award program emphasizes the belief that not all learning happens in the classroom.

So many valuable lessons and skills can be learned during the adventurous journey section of the program as young people are forced to get out of their comfort zone and experience life in a different environment in a different way.

During his time in the Award program, Colin was involved in numerous volunteer activities. These activities ranged from coaching youth basketball, serving at a soup kitchen, participating in the daffodil pin campaign, and serving on student council.

One of Colin’s passions is giving back to his community. This is clearly evidenced by his years of service with the Canadian Cancer Society where he was the recipient of the Canadian Cancer Society’s Inspirational Achievement in Volunteer Youth Leadership Provincial Award. He was part of True Sport during his high school years and ultimately became the youngest of 40 True Sport Champions in Canada. Other awards Colin received include the Teens Who Care Award, the Fundy Wellness Champion Award, his community’s Youth Citizenship Award, and the Cultural Diversity Youth Leader Award.

**99%**  
of Gold Awardees agree  
The Award improved  
their sense of  
**Community  
Appreciation**

One person that Colin finds truly inspiring is Terry Fox. “Terry Fox is one of Canada’s greatest heroes because he helped us realize that anything is possible. Terry Fox never gave up, he had a strong work ethic, and he was committed to all that he did. He definitely helped motivate others to be their best selves.”

Colin is such a great example of how The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award can shape a young person’s life. We are proud to call Colin a New Brunswick Duke of Ed Gold Award Achiever, and we applaud him for all of his countless hours of hard work and dedication to so many important causes. We look forward to all that he will undoubtedly accomplish in the future!