

The SAC Youth Bursary program.

SAC will match up to twenty \$500 bursaries for youth (age up to 25 as of January 1st and attending a place of learning, university, college or trade school, etc). The money is to be used on flying activities, not for membership dues, with the goal of maximizing flying training. The clubs will select candidate(s) and it is to be open to anyone without any prerequisite of prior flying training or licensing. The distribution of the bursaries will be done in such a way as to give all clubs an equal opportunity of support if they wish to participate. The first round of one bursary will be available to a club up to 1 June after which a club would be able to obtain a second bursary for all those applying (pending availability) up to 1 August, at which time a third round would take place subject to any bursaries remaining.

The process is as follows:

- Download the application from the document vault on the SAC website.
- The candidate completes the first section and then forwards the application to the club president or CFI.
- The club president or CFI completes the bottom portion and scan and emails the form to David Collard.
- Each club will receive one bursary received prior to June 1.
- Each club that has an applicant will receive a second bursary prior to August 1 provided there is money available after the first round.
- If there is bursary money still available, a third round will take place.

If a club submits more than one request, please rank the youth in order of priority for the first and second rounds. For a club to receive a bursary(ies) the individual(s) who would benefit will have to be on record at SAC as being a paid-up member of the receiving club and SAC. The club will receive the SAC funding earmarked for the individual. The SAC Board has designated me as the SAC contact person (quarterback) for this program: phone/fax 1-866-745-1440 toll free or <dacollard@telus.net>. The remainder of the BoD will be contacted if any adjudication is needed.

The SAC Youth Soaring Bursary does not set any rules for how the beneficiary helps around the gliding field. In the spirit of co-operation, all members at the field are expected to willingly help others, as will be the case for the Youth Soaring Bursary members. At Silver Star, we see the beneficiary(ies) also helping to run the *Freedom Wings* program with a work-for-flying incentive as suggested in the *Youth Flight Canada* program. Perhaps the expectation of one day's work for one flight. Remember that at most clubs, instructors get nothing in return for all their work except a "Thank You". This is not a directive from SAC but only a suggestion, as each club can do as they please. From my contact with the club executive in the Pacific Zone there is every indication that four clubs will be involved in 2009 with the SAC bursary program. Hopefully other clubs will jump on the band-wagon and benefit. It's up to you.

Each club in receipt of the SAC Youth Soaring Bursaries is also requested to submit a report to David Collard by 1 November 2009, out-lining the results obtained together

with the number of flights and what stage of flying the beneficiary reached, and giving a break-down on how the money was utilized.

Comments and suggestions are also welcomed in order for us to build on the program. This info will be helpful to other clubs, so that we don't have to constantly reinvent the wheel. The funding received from SAC but not used during one soaring season should be carried over to the next year as part of SAC support and should not be put in the general funds of the club. This carry-over will not reduce the support received from SAC in the following season. We would only request club cooperation to return the un-used SAC funding if the bursary recipient decides to quit the program, the end result being to help fellow SAC clubs who are still in the program.

Youth Flight Canada's Gliding Bursaries

In addition to the newly created SAC Youth Soaring Scholarship program, Youth Flight Canada has been offering similar youth scholarships since 2000. In 2008 YFC provided 19 bursaries worth between \$500-800 to three clubs. The YFC bursaries require a club to lower its membership fee to \$100, of which YFC pays \$50 and the recipient pays \$50, after which the recipient pays just \$5 per flight in exchange for one hour of volunteer time per flight. The monetary balance of the flight is withdrawn from their bursary until used up. Any further overages are the responsibility of the recipient. The youth is charged regular member rates for tows & glider rental, ensuring that the club earns a new member, revenue and increases the chance for future retention.

Since starting our bursary program, YFC has found that certain elements will increase the chance for success of the SAC Youth Soaring Scholarship that is being rolled out for 2009. If clubs meet the criteria below, they may request in whole or in part, the matching funding portion required by SAC for scholarships they are awarded, cushioning any financial burden on the club.

The requirements for eligibility for YFC funding are:

- That the clubs select youths with a pilot's licence, including especially those who have had experience in the Air Cadets (who have already demonstrated a passion and a discipline to achieve their licence).
- That there is a demonstrated commitment from the club to use the maximum amount of funding for flying time, rather than membership, initiation fees, etc.
- A requirement that the recipient feel they have earned the privilege to fly. The club will instilling in youth the volunteer ethic that keeps gliding clubs flying, through one hour of volunteer time to the club for each flight – cutting the grass, painting a wall, washing a plane, cleaning the clubhouse, etc.
- Limiting to 2 flights the carrying of 'friends', after which the 'friend' pays for the tow

- Clubs seek to reward the youth, when sufficiently experienced, to become an introductory pilot.
- The club provide a Signed Code of Conduct, Rights & Responsibilities, available from Youth Flight Canada
- The club plan to offer some assistance to youth for transportation (car pool) and on site accommodation where possible (camp ground, shared trailer, etc.)
- That the club has a welcoming culture and has members willing to mentor youth in the air and on the ground. The recipient should have a senior mentor at the club to approach for advice & and as an example.
- A Critical Mass of youth involved in Soaring, i.e. min of 3 at small club, 5 at large clubs.

- To discuss applying for these grants from Youth Flight Canada, have your club president, CFI or appropriate director contact Peter Musters, Exec. Director of YFC. petermusters@gmail.com (647) 637 8239.