

8 September 2021

Puget Sound Anglers NOPC Wally Pohlod Memorial Scholarship

Peninsula College Foundation

1502 E. Lauridsen Blvd

Port Angeles, WA 98362

Dear Puget Sound Anglers NOPC,

Earlier this year I was awarded the Puget Sound Anglers NOPC Wally Pohlod Memorial Scholarship and I am honored to thank you for your generous donation. With your support I am going to be able to attend my classes at Peninsula College without the financial stress that burdens too many of us. Thank you for allowing me the freedom to continue my education. I hope to give back someday and allow another student the choice of education despite their financial situation like you have done for me.

My name is Bligh Hueske (pronounced like "Bly Husky") I am 22 years old and I was born and raised in Shelton Washington, about two hours away on the other side of the Olympics. As an elementary student I was given the opportunity to join Washington's Highly Capable Program. We went on field trips around local forests and waterways. At a young age I learned about the importance of keeping our water clean for the health of our ecosystems. I was also involved in 4-H for about 10 years and later pursued the Equestrian team in high school. In addition, I was a part of my high school's Women's Wrestling team and Women's Powerlifting. Last year was my first year at PC and I made good friends through our school's STEM club. I was the Secretary of our club where my primary role was reaching out to professionals to help us better understand topics such as computer science, environmental science, and many other related topics. I am excited to join our STEM club again this year. Aside from STEM club, I also participated in PC's Sustainable Agriculture Certificate Program. It's a three quarter series where I learned the basics of gardening sustainably for the health of our rich soil and our ecosystems in small to large scales. In addition, I also learned about our current food systems in the United States, and basic permaculture principles. This quarter, I'll be working for the college in a work-study position where I'll be peer mentoring new students in the STEM field.

Peninsula College is a great school and the faculty here has done an awesome job supporting me in my journey thus far. I decided to go to this school because I want to help the health of our planet and all its inhabitants, particularly with waste management. I thought educating myself was the first step, but I didn't really know where I wanted to be. My advisor, Jen Santry, was a key factor in the direction I'm currently in. I'm the first in my family to go to college, and even though I have my parents' love and support, they don't really know exactly how to help me with all of these

big decisions. Jen informed me of all the possible paths I could take and ultimately I felt a good fit with environmental sciences. This school year I plan to earn my Associate in Science Degree and then my Associate in Arts Degree. From there I plan on transferring to Western Washington University where I'll earn my Bachelor of Environmental Science Degree through their Huxley Environmental Science Program taught here on the Peninsulas. My interests are in keeping our water clean, plastic waste, and invasive species. Right now I'm very interested in math and science, especially chemistry. Eventually, I would like to help with environmental policy as well.

Thank you Puget Sound Anglers NOPC for supporting me in my journey to further my education. You are a key factor to my success and this opportunity is so spectacular.

Best wishes,



Bligh Hueske

