



Oct. 24, 2018

King's announces re-establishment of Prince Scholarship for African-Nova Scotian students

Halifax | The University of King's College is re-establishing the Prince Scholarship to be awarded to an African Nova Scotian student entering the Foundation Year Program and pursuing a degree in arts, science or journalism (honours). King's President William Lahey made the announcement at this week's Formal Meal, one of the College's venerable traditions.

Named for Dr. Samuel Prince (1886-1960), the scholarship is valued at \$6,000 and will be renewable for four years, bringing the total value of the scholarship to \$24,000 over four years.

Dr. Prince was an Anglican priest, pioneering sociologist, King's professor and builder of the social welfare state, in Nova Scotia and Canada, who played a leading role in founding the Maritime School of Social Work at Dalhousie University. In 1959, thanks to a benefactor who requested anonymity, King's established the first Prince Scholarship—a renewable \$1,000 scholarship awarded to an African-Nova Scotian student. It was available for 10 years until funding lapsed. Previous Prince Scholarship winners Gordon Sinclair Earle (recipient in 1959) and Mureena Hebert (recipient in 1969) were in attendance when the re-established scholarship was announced.

Saying he was "delighted" to announce the Prince Scholarship's reestablishment, Lahey acknowledged the generosity of gifts from private donors who made re-establishment of the scholarship with endowed funding possible. "Our goal is to keep growing this fund so we can increase the value of the scholarship and ultimately offer more than one scholarship at a time," Lahey said. "We look forward to meeting Prince scholars of the future who will carry on the great legacies of past recipients like Gordon and Mureena."

Chair of King's Board of Governors Doug Ruck, who graduated from King's in 1972, spoke at the announcement, citing his own experience as an African-Nova Scotian coming to King's in the late 1960s. As an applicant, he recalled reading the King's calendar and learning there was a scholarship for black students. At the time, King's was the only university in Nova Scotia with such a scholarship.

"It was like putting a welcome mat at the top of the stairs of the university's Arts and Administration Building," Ruck said. "This little university at the corner of Coburg Road had a scholarship named for Samuel Prince; a scholarship that recognized the need for diversity."

Ruck credited King's with inspiring him to pursue a career in law and public service that has included serving as the province's ombudsman and as Chair of the Nova Scotia Labour Board as well as volunteering with many community organizations.

"Doors are opened by others. Doors are opened by those who go ahead of us," Ruck said to the crowd of faculty, staff and over 100 students present for the announcement. "Time will go by and you'll be able to improve upon what others put in place."

Applications for the Prince Scholarship will open in November.

###

About the University of King's College

Established in 1789, King's College is Canada's oldest chartered university. A small and extraordinarily lively academic community located in Halifax, N.S., King's is known nationally and internationally for its highly acclaimed interdisciplinary programs in the humanities and journalism, including our Foundation Year Program.

For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact:

Alison DeLory

Advancement Office

University of King's College

Alison.DeLory@ukings.ca

Tel: (902) 422-1271, ext. 295

Please find two photos attached to this press release:

1. Portrait of Dr. Samuel Prince
2. From left: Gordon Sinclair Earle (Prince Scholarship recipient, 1959), Mureena Hebert (Prince Scholarship recipient, 1969), Chair of King's Board of Governors Doug Ruck, University of King's College President William Lahey.