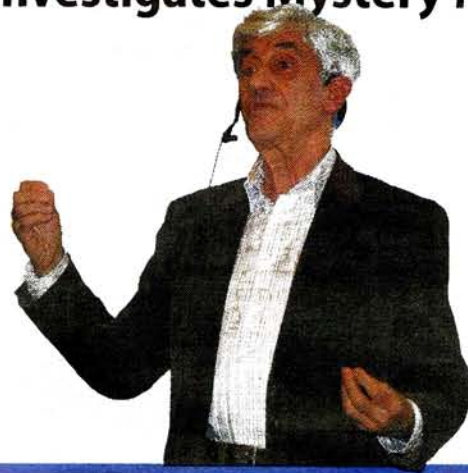


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PAGE 26 / WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2007 **REAL ESTATE/COMMUNITY** Sackville Tribune-Post

Mount A student attains Duke of Edinburgh gold level status

Felicia Pickard, a third-year undergraduate student in biology at Mount Allison University, was one of eight New Brunswick recipients of the Gold Level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Young Canadians Challenge Award that she garnered through her local 4H club in Woodstock, New Brunswick. Pickard attained the highest rank after earlier completing her bronze and silver level status over the past few years.

"I was very excited when I heard the news that I had reached the gold level status. I worked hard for the award, but you never know if you have completed enough requirements to achieve the highest level," said Pickard. "I had to submit my record book to the provincial agency, and I knew I was approved at the provincial level, but when I received word from the national governors at the end of August, I was completely overjoyed."

Pickard has been working towards this goal for the last four years. There are five components that must be completed

to attain the gold standard - community service, physical recreation, learning new practical skills, and an extended adventurous journey expedition. At the Gold level, participants must also complete a residential project where one must broaden their horizons by living and working with others in a novel cultural setting for more than five days.

Parker used resources at Mount Allison and in the Sackville community setting to attain her qualifications. Much of her community service component was completed by volunteering at places such as at the Drew Nursing Home. She has already completed three volunteer years spending time at the Drew and she continues to volunteer.

Her physical recreation components were completed by taking part in campus societies such as the Mount Allison dance club as well as outdoor activities such as hiking in remote areas of the Maritimes while she worked in the university's MAD Lab.

She also combined one of her newly-

formed skills of knitting to help make scarves and mitts for needy children in the community. She completed her residential project by working in Ottawa for a week at the Terry Fox Centre completing a special project on health and medicine while living with a local family.

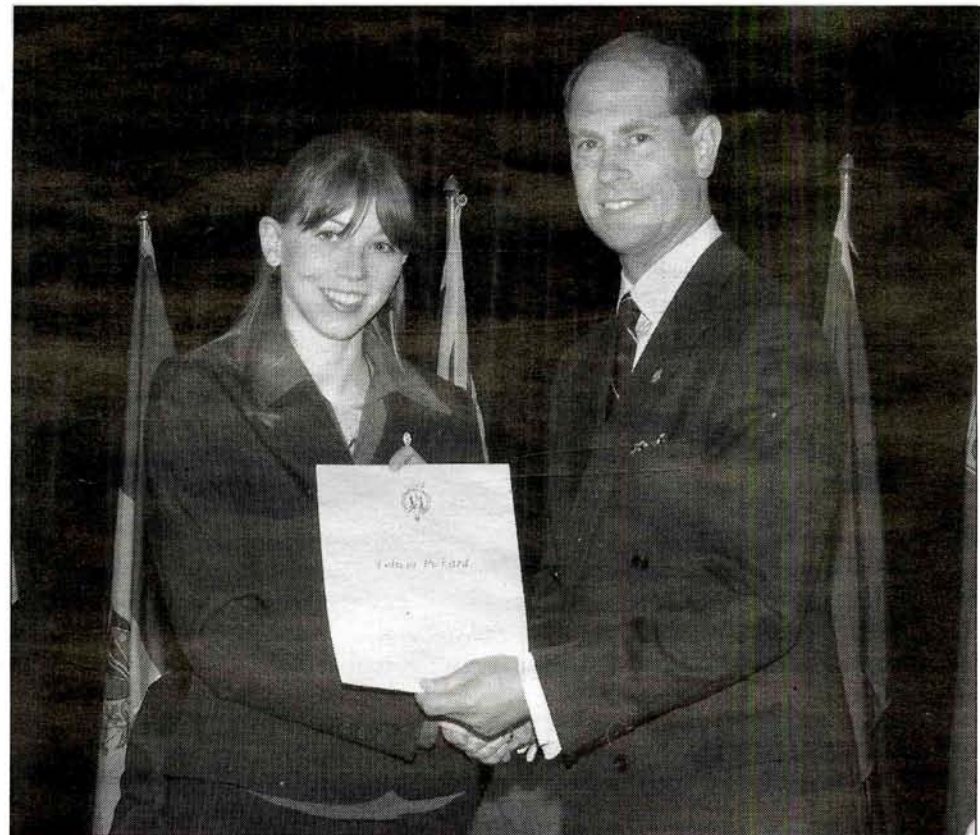
Lastly, her adventurous journey project was completed on a one-month expedition to Kenya through the university's chapter of Free the Children, where she spent her time building schools for children in their home communities.

The award was recently presented to Parker on behalf of the Duke of Edin-

burgh by his son Prince Edward.

"The prince was very charming and was quite witty during the award presentations. He made it a point to come around to each recipient's table and meet each family member. He posed with us for pictures and I was very nervous when I posed with him for the picture with all of the undercover agents in the background. It was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience," she said.

Information can be found at <http://www.dukeofed.org/Award.htm> or from the New Brunswick chapter at <http://www.dukeofed.org/nb/index.html>.



Mount Allison student Felicia Pickard was one of eight New Brunswick recipients of the Gold Level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Young Canadians Challenge Award that she garnered through her local 4H club in Woodstock. The award was presented to Pickard on behalf of the Duke of Edinburgh by his son Prince Edward.