



## Megan Mota

*Class of 2018 at Concordia University of Edmonton*

*Bachelor of Arts - Psychology major, Education minor*

*Continuing: Bachelor of Education After Degree, Elementary Education – University of Alberta, 2021*

*Member of Michele Band First Nations*

Megan is a local Edmonton and Area alumni, graduating from Concordia University of Edmonton in May 2018 with her Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Psychology and minoring in Education. Prior to attending Concordia, she had been working a receptionist job, and finding that to be unsatisfying, she decided to pursue post-secondary education with the hopes of discovering a passion in a new field. She began her post-secondary journey in the General Studies program, unsure of exactly what she wanted to study while at university but knowing she wanted to be in university. While at Concordia, she took a few Psychology classes, and found that that subject matter was an area that sparked her interest. Something similar happened when she took a few Education classes, and also volunteered in her Aunt's grade 3 Elementary classroom.

Megan really enjoyed her experience volunteering, and it gave her the thought of pursuing Education in her own life. She also took an educational psychology class which focused on teaching students with disabilities, and found that to also be a further area of interest for her.

Since graduating in the Spring of 2018, Megan has taken a well-deserved trip to Mexico to relax and unwind following a busy undergraduate career. She spent the summer and fall working as a receptionist, but has since decided to apply to the University of Alberta's Elementary Education After Degree program. Working in a classroom with students and taking on an active role in their life journey is exciting for Megan, and she looks forward to becoming involved in their educational process as a teacher.

She wants to encourage students to be confident in themselves, knowing that they can reach their end goal of graduating university successfully if they dedicate themselves and are confident in their abilities as a student. She also wants to reassure prospective students to be ready for the university experience and be open to taking different classes to find out what you are interested in - the same way that she did. Working hard will also show students what they are capable of, and Megan hopes to encourage students with this idea.

Megan felt her experience with Freehorse was really great, and she found it so helpful how prompt her funding officer Jessica was in replying to her questions. She felt supported by this organization, and was glad to hear of it when her Aunt (who was also sponsored by Freehorse) passed along the information, allowing Megan the opportunity to be sponsored for her first degree.