

Julie DiCicco, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.

ASSOCIATE

Candidate for the 2021 Allen D. Williams Scholarship

I'm thankful and honoured to be given the opportunity to present some examples of my character, experience, and commitment to the consulting industry that illustrate why I make an excellent candidate for the Allen D. Williams Scholarship.

I graduated with a Bachelor of Environmental Engineering from Dalhousie University in 2013, and immediately went on to pursue a Master's degree in Applied Science through the Civil and Water Resource Department. In 2016, I accepted a position at Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon) as an Environmental Engineer, where I have worked on and led projects such as climate change vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans, and wastewater treatment facility design for a variety of municipal and Indigenous clients.

My career at Dillon has been primarily focused on working with Indigenous clients. From previous work experiences I possessed the knowledge necessary to work and administer projects within Indigenous communities, which involved proper navigation of the often complex financial relationships between Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and individual First Nation communities. I have demonstrated strong project management skills in this unique market, and have dedicated professional resources to help build internal capacity for housing, economic development corporations, and infrastructure management in Indigenous communities. I strongly feel that as engineers and consultants, we have an obligation to provide innovative and sustainable solutions to our clients; capacity building being at the forefront of those solutions. I have taken this concept further by creating a shared learning environment which has led me to create innovative solutions for our clients, including new ways of considering climate change vulnerabilities for First Nation infrastructure, and a new approach to housing management. With my knowledge of asset management systems, I worked collaboratively with communities to develop a housing asset management tool in consideration of ISC's funding environment, Indigenous housing models, and common issues and concerns with housing on reserve.

With a demonstrated passion for leading and developing others, I was included as part of the Program Management Team for the Early Career Development (ECD) program at Dillon. The goal of the ECD program is to accelerate consulting careers by empowering professional and self-development. I believe my participation in the FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Program (YPMTP) would help strengthen my leadership skills and provide me with an opportunity to share this knowledge with other young professionals in the consulting industry.

I have grown into an exemplary project manager, managing and coordinating large scale projects under various technical disciplines for municipal and Indigenous clients. This, among other attributes, has propelled me into senior level positions within the firm, and in March 2020 I assumed the positions of National Client Segment Manager (CSM) for Indigenous Communities under two separate Business Units. The CSM roles involve managing and developing our market approaches to established clients, and identifying growth and diversification clients who are critical to the health of our business.

I take both pride and ownership in my own and Dillon's work within the consulting industry. I am passionate about helping Indigenous clients and finding efficient solutions to complex problems. The prestigious Allen D. Williams Scholarship would help strengthen my leadership capabilities and financially support my participation in the FIDIC YPMTP, which would allow me to reinforce my values on shared learning and capacity building by paying it forward through the ECD program and through my active involvement in industry associations. I believe my qualities, professional experience, and career aspirations would make me a great recipient of the Allen D. Williams Scholarship.



Julie DiCicco

