

TRREB Awards \$242,000 to Date with Scholarship Initiative

TORONTO, ONTARIO, October 24, 2023 – Each year the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB) recognizes high school students who are pursuing post-secondary education with the Past President’s Scholarship. Since the inception of the program in 2007, 66 deserving students have received a total of \$242,000 to put towards realizing their dreams.

“TRREB Member REALTORS® are passionate about building a resilient and empowered community, and this includes investing in our young people. We see a need to provide students with an opportunity to thrive and grow, and our Past President Scholarship offers exactly that. Eight first-year students are set-up for success in their journey to higher education,” said TRREB President Paul Baron.

The Winners

The first-place winners are Lukas Othen and Ravetta Ravichandran. Lukas’ essay explored whether renting or owning would truly achieve the Canadian dream. He is attending the University of Waterloo and is enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering Co-op program. In the future, Lukas aspires to pursue a career in the aerospace industry or contribute to research in this field. He would love to have the opportunity to work for the Canadian Space Agency or NASA. **Ravetta** looked at whether prioritizing preserving the Greenbelt still makes sense given the steadily increasing population. She is enrolled at Queen’s University in the Honours Health Sciences program. In the future, Ravetta hopes to work in the healthcare industry.

Eva Chima and Tina Xia are the second-place winners. Eva’s essay shared the benefits and downfalls of renting versus owning within the GTA housing market. She has started her Bachelor of Health Sciences at McMaster University. Eva plans to continue to learn about various careers in research, including artificial intelligence use in medicine, family medicine, dermatology, and medical genetics. **Tina’s** essay covered the current housing crisis in the GTA and whether it justifies building on Greenbelt land. She is studying Computer Engineering at the University of Waterloo. After she graduates, she wants to pursue a career as a high school physics teacher.

Our third-place winners are Allenna Tang and Ayla Bubber. Allenna examined the pros and cons of renting versus owning and the impact of home affordability in today’s market. She is attending McGill University. In the future, she hopes to explore a variety of fields, including those in the public and non-profit sectors. **Ayla’s** paper discussed the options to potentially alleviate Ontario’s housing crisis. She is at Queen’s University completing a Bachelor of Arts degree. Although Ayla plans on specializing in Political Science, she wants to eventually pursue a law degree and become a lawyer.

Our fourth-place award winners are Gajanandi Rajakulenthiran and Yalda Matin. In her essay, **Gajanandi** delves into the benefits and limitations of renting versus home ownership.

She is attending York University, specifically the Schulich School of Business for a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Gajanandi's career goals include working in the public sector. **Yalda's** paper set out to discover if increased housing options impact the environment. She is attending the University of Toronto and will major in International Relations. Her dream is to become a diplomat.

[Learn more](#) about TRREB's Past President's Scholarship, including more about the winners and when to apply for the 2024 scholarships.

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The [Toronto Regional Real Estate Board](#) is Canada's largest real estate board with over 73,000 residential and commercial professionals connecting people, property and communities.

