

WHO ARE WE? _____

The P.E.I. Certified Organic Producers Co-op (COPC) was established in 2002. The Co-op is composed of certified organic agriculture producers who wish to see organic agriculture grow within Prince Edward Island. Our vision of the future entails a vibrant, growing organic industry in P.E.I. We are committed to supporting:

- * Quality healthy food for Islanders
- * A revitalized rural economy and culture
- * Protecting and enhancing the environment
- * A fair income for organic farmers

To realize this vision we have set the following goals:

- * Increase organic production, research and market development
- * Invite growers into the organic industry
- * Promote and educate Islanders about organic food

For more information about COPC, visit our web site at www.organicpei.com

WHAT IS CERTIFIED ORGANIC FOOD? _____

Certified organic means that an independent certifying authority has verified that the organic standards have been met in the production and processing of food. The standards certify that the food carrying a certified label has been produced without the use of systemic pesticides, genetic engineering, hormones, irradiation, chemical fertilizer and that the animals are treated humanely. It means that farmers have been approved by a third party, follow a set of standards, pass a yearly inspection and maintain a detailed audit trail.

Organic food production is legally regulated. Currently, the European Union, the United States, Japan and many other countries require producers to obtain organic certification in order to market food as organic. In Canada, by June , 2009 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency will oversee the Canadian Organic Standards and Regulations, which must be followed by all organic producers, importers and exporters of organic food in Canada.

BURSARY DESCRIPTION _____

This \$750 entrance bursary will be awarded to a new recipient annually. It has been established by the P.E.I. Certified Organic Producers Co-Op to encourage the pursuit of post-secondary studies in organic agriculture.

The bursary has been created due to the generous donations of artwork by Prince Edward Island Artists. These artworks are auctioned annually at our Organic Harvest Meal to sustain the education fund.

GENERAL CRITERIA _____

This bursary is awarded annually to a student entering his/her first year of Post-Secondary studies in organic agriculture at a recognized institute of education. The recipient shall be determined by the COPC Education Fund Committee based upon the completed application form, and a minimum high school average to date (grades 10, 11 and mid-term grade 12) of 75% (or equivalent for mature students). The bursary will be transferred to the chosen recipient upon confirmation of registration with the post-secondary institution.

AWARD VALUE _____

\$750 entrance bursary

APPLICATION PROCESS (application deadline: March 15th)

Applicants will provide a completed application form and transcripts of grades 10, 11 and mid-term grade 12 high school marks .

- Application materials should be submitted (postmarked) by March 15th to:
Prince Edward Island Certified Organic Producers Co-Operative Ltd.
Box 1776 Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, C1A 7N3

For additional information call: (902)894-9999