

## **2014 CPAC- Queen Financial Group Scholarship Recipient: Shannon Wong**



Shannon is one of the 10 students in the inaugural class of Queen's University's Accelerated Route to Medical School. With a keen interest in surgery, she has worked on six clinical research projects over the last nine months alongside surgical residents and staff in both Toronto and Kingston. She has showed a great aptitude for education research, an inquisitive and hardworking nature, and a passion for all clinical and academic aspects of surgery.

Shannon has volunteered over 2,600 hours serving communities both local and abroad, spoken to thousands of students across GTA to promote social activism and volunteerism, and raised over \$100,000 for charities. She has taken her passion for surgery overseas on a volunteering trip to Ghana to serve as a surgical assistant in an under-staffed hospital where she helped treat patients on community outreaches. She has volunteered in China, India, Kenya, and Ecuador to help build schools, clean water wells, and health centres.

Shannon is an inspiring example of student success and leadership, and has won numerous honours and awards. She has a passion for social justice and an unshakable belief that change is possible. She has started three initiatives to help youth help others – Strength in Numbers encourages student social activism, Travel for Hope inspires global volunteerism, and the Travel for Hope Fund provides bursaries for passionate youth to volunteer overseas. She has also been a Free the Children/Me to We Ambassador and is currently the chair of the Board of Directors of Pledges for Change, a youth-run non-profit organization that encourages youth to take action in support of local and global causes.