

September 25th, 2004

Attn: Scholarship Committee

Thank you for considering my application for the NUPATH Fausta Bottero Homeopathic Scholarship Award. I am currently a first year student in the DHHP program at the Hahnemann College for Heilkunst in Ottawa, and a student member of NUPATH. As I live in rural Alberta, I am completing this training as a distance education student, an opportunity for which I'm deeply grateful.

I am the mother of Kaelynn (17 months) and wife to Larry Bogart. We live on an organic farm that belongs to Larry's parents in Alberta. My days are filled with mothering, homeopathic study, farming, and administration for our natural toy business. While the many responsibilities of my life make for a full schedule, I am passionately dedicated to each aspect of my life, and work to form them into a cohesive and balanced whole.

My dream and goal is that as a direct result of my studies in homeopathy I will establish a rural practice in Alberta, serving those in our area who are quite a distance from trained homeopathic practitioners in the major centres. There are still very few homeopathic practitioners in Western Canada, and a notable paucity in most rural areas. From my discussions with friends and family, there is a strong interest in pursuing homeopathy as their source of primary health care, and I feel that, once trained, I can significantly aid others in offering my services as a guide towards a deep, true and lasting cure, bringing with it health and well-being. I also love speaking with others on the benefits of homeopathy and can foresee a time when I might offer my skills as a public speaker (developed through several previous employment positions) on the topic through local community colleges and special interest groups.

I look forward to contributing directly to the body of knowledge available to homeopaths as my personal experience increases, by writing articles for homeopathic periodicals (I have had several short pieces of writing accepted and printed by periodicals and compilations) that will be, hopefully – educational as well as entertaining. I receive great pleasure from communicating with others, whether it is through the written or verbal form. After graduation, and as my daughter grows, I will be very interested in serving as a volunteer in the homeopathic community in whatever capacity would be useful and applicable from my rural location.

I would like to briefly describe for you, my journey into homeopathy. Natural living has always been of prime importance to our family. Some examples of our search to live naturally can be seen in our choices to eat a whole foods organic diet, to deliver our baby at home, to decline vaccinations and to treat our illnesses without the assistance of the allopathic medical institutions. However, homeopathy as a comprehensive medical system is a relatively new and fascinating approach to complete wellness for our family.

Our first introduction to homeopathic medicine was through our midwife, Barbara Scriver of Edmonton who delivered Kaelynn here on the farm. After our due date passed, our midwife felt that Kaelynn might be in an odd position that could be keeping her from fully engaging and initiating labour. As I was eager to meet our child, I took her advice and began taking homeopathic Pulsatilla, as well as engaging in some shifting exercises with my body. Labour began a day later and Kaelynn was born the following day. From that moment my interest was piqued, and we have since used

homeopathic remedies to treat plugged ducts, coughs, mastitis, fevers, teething difficulties, sleeplessness, eye injury, chills and weakness during a flu, headaches etc.

Once I was introduced to the system of homeopathic healing, I resolved to learn more on the subject. I have always loved to learn about subjects that interest me, and I dove into learning about homeopathy enthusiastically. Primarily, I enlisted the aid of my local public library, which lends a selection of books on homeopathy. I rapidly devoured their selection of books and even a video that they had available. I also began the search for a homeopathic practitioner to treat our family, and after extensive research, reading and contemplation we chose Louise Grenier of St. Albert. Our entire family has now been under her care since January of this year, an experience that I am continually finding educational, supportive and renewing as I move through my studies.

My interest in learning about health and healing has been ongoing throughout my life, and has led me to explore several different systems and methods of healing including nutritional supplementation, herbal medicine and Reiki. My life's journey has finally brought me to Homeopathy, the study of which has changed me in many ways, and continues to provide new vistas for the imagination and new ways of looking at the world around me. The example of Samuel Hahnemann inspires me to always examine the world around me directly, to rationally examine everything placed before me, both as a student and as an inhabitant of this world we all share. His bold example of free thought and experimentation serves as an exquisite reminder to keep an open mind about the boundaries and limits of homeopathy. This is an area in which NUPATH excels, in the non-dogmatic support of all homeopathic practitioners.

Although we have limited financial resources at our disposal as organic farmers in these times of agricultural turmoil and devaluation of food products, my entire family is extraordinarily committed to the successful completion of my studies. Due to my passionate desire, we are dedicated to ensuring that we are financially able to do so, no matter what it takes. Despite our limited financial situation, I am confident that there are ways that I can continue to study, and I am continually working to find these ways. I have found that the following statement by Goethe contains great truth:

"Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

After our farming expenses we make approximately (amount removed for publication on NUPATH website) monthly as an average depending upon the time of year. This includes the government assistance that we receive through the family allowance program and our part-time natural toy-making business. We usually spend approximately 65 -75% of this amount on the necessities of life, food, shelter, clothing etc. However small the remaining amount may seem, it is dedicated to the study of homeopathy.

Thank you again for considering my application for the NUPATH Fausta Bottero Homeopathic Scholarship Award.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Chipman
Alberta, Canada