

# Kyle Wiebe

*2023 Bursary Essay*



*This last year at Canadian Mennonite University has opened my eyes to what an intertwined school and faith life can really be like.*

I had gone into post secondary study with some doubts. Education has always been completely separated from matters of faith for me, mainly going to public schools where matters of religion were not often addressed. The way that CMU blends matters of education and matters of faith truly surprised me, as it really didn't feel out of place at all. Incorporating faith into subjects like ecology and psychology opened doors I didn't know were closed, allowing me to make connections not just in the classroom, but in daily life. I continue to choose a Mennonite institution

because Anabaptism offers progressive, productive, and relevant ways of thinking that incorporate faith into daily choices. CMU strongly emphasizes the faith hood of all believers, teaching students to be open to hearing new ideas, speaking opinions, and testing their own views and opinions. CMU teaches one to be critical of faith in a way that allows others to be heard. Students are also guided towards living holistically, with a reconciliatory attitude reaching farther than just reconciliation itself, calling you to enter into discussion with those like oneself, those not like oneself, and to value the views of the outcast.

Overall, my year at CMU was an interactive and proactive experience, instilling in me important strategies that have impacted my life on a daily basis. But most importantly, CMU instilled a sense of hope within me. Hope that will allow me to help others, and further my own faith.