



## Bursaries created for online education program



*Sven Fredrickson*



*Earl Foxcroft*



*Debra Mills*

NIDMAR has established a bursary program to help students with the cost of tuition for its online education program. Three bursaries of \$2,500 each will be awarded to Canadian students who enroll in the full online program of 25 modules, and who meet the award criteria.

The bursaries have been established in the names of three past NIDMAR board members who have passed away: Sven Fredrickson, Earl Foxcroft and Debra Mills.

“The NIDMAR board wanted to find a way to honour these three dedicated individuals, and at the same time, help Canadian students who are paying the full tuition without the support of an employer, and are in need of financial assistance,” explains honorary board member Muriel Westmorland, associate professor, School of Rehabilitation Science, McMaster University.

### **Sven Fredrickson**

After a severe industrial accident that confined him to a wheelchair, Fredrickson devoted his life to being an advocate for the right of every injured worker to return to work. He was a pioneer in the return to work and disability management field, and an honorary board member of NIDMAR until his death in 2005.

### **Earl Foxcroft**

As the president of IWA Local 1-85 in Port Alberni for 21 years, Foxcroft was a strong and passionate supporter of improving working opportunities for people with disabilities. He played a pivotal role in establishing NIDMAR, and served as an active board member. He passed away in 1999.

### **Debra Mills**

Dedicated to fully including persons with disabilities into the workplace and into society, Mills was the director of rehabilitation services at the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C. She was an active member of NIDMAR's board of directors from 1992 to 1996. She passed away in 1999, at the age of 37, after a courageous battle with cancer.

NIDMAR's online Return to Work Coordinator Program consists of a series of 25 modules. Each module requires 10 to 12 hours of study. Modules focus on such topics as return to work plans, job analysis, workplace modifications, assessment, assistive devices, organizational skills, marketing, information technology, labour relations, rehabilitation, disability-related legislation, program development, and evaluation.

More details on these bursaries can be found on the NIDMAR website at [www.nidmar.ca](http://www.nidmar.ca). ■