

Suzanne Lee Teachers' Education Endowment Fund

The Minerva Foundation is pleased to announce the Suzanne Lee Teachers' Education Endowment Fund. Through the generosity of Ms. Lee, an endowment has recently been established with the Minerva Foundation for the purpose of awarding bursaries to deserving women pursuing studies in the field of education. Through this endowment Suzanne Lee wishes to ease the way for women experiencing hardships in their quest to work in the field of education, as she had always dreamed of doing herself, but never had the opportunity.

Suzanne C. Lee Bio

She was the only girl in the family taking university entrance in high school. But the era was the 1930's and when it came time, there wasn't any money to send a girl to university. The tight financial resources had to be utilized for the boys' education. So Suzanne went to work at a produce store to help support the family. And she never did get her post-secondary education. At that time, there were no grants, no bursaries, and no student loans. She had always wanted to be a teacher oh well.

Suzanne married, bore a girl and a boy, was a wonderful mother and homemaker, and then, sadly, a widow at the age of 46. Without a university education or marketable skills, with one child in University and one in high school, and at an age that human resources said made her unemployable, she was in a difficult situation. After submitting many resumes and suffering many rejections, a family friend took pity on her and made an entry level clerical position for her. With an aptitude for math, she worked hard and learned all she could, eventually becoming responsible for over a million-dollar payroll.

On a personal level, she learned what she could about investments, and with her savings and investments was able to retire at age 60. Now at the age of 85, she wishes to help other women who are experiencing hardships, to reach their goal to work in the field of education, just as she had dreamed about doing so many years ago.

Thus, she has established the Minerva Foundation's **Suzanne Lee Teachers' Education Endowment Fund**. The Minerva Foundation would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Ms. Lee for her commitment to enhance the lives of women throughout British Columbia by providing educational opportunities.