

# **Youth Award of Merit**

## *Matthew Oliver*

*Recipient of the 2021 Youth Award of Merit, Matthew Oliver was born in Nova Scotia and lived in Nevada and Ontario before moving with his family to Leduc in 2013. He graduated from Christ the King School in June 2022.*

*Passionate about being involved in his community since an early age, Matthew has always been eager to lend a helping hand, volunteering for events like the Boys and Girls Club of Leduc Festival of Trees, highway cleanups and the annual Arbour Day. Wanting to be involved in a meaningful way, Matthew served as a member of the Leduc Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Board from 2018 to 2021. The experience taught him about ongoing social issues while also giving him the opportunity to be a voice for local youth. In November 2019 Matthew was selected as a founding member of the City of Leduc Youth Council, which gives young people a chance to participate in local government.*

*From 2019 to 2020, Matthew volunteered as a member of the RCMP National Youth Advisory Committee. This committee brought together youth from all over Canada to discuss important social and mental health issues, supporting the development of RCMP policies and programs. This unique opportunity allowed Matthew to represent Leduc on a national level.*

*Matthew will be starting in the Bachelor of Commerce program at MacEwan University in September 2022. He hopes to continue giving back to the community through volunteer work and someday to provide legal services to those in need. An avid outdoorsman, Matthew also enjoys woodworking, chess and guitar.*