**Student Discovery Award – Advertisement and Terms of Reference**

**Student Discovery Award**

The SCO-SOC is committed to removing barriers and promoting diversity and inclusion within the ornithology community in Canada. The Student Discovery Award is offered to students who self-identify as being from equity-denied groups, including but not limited to: visible minorities (e.g., Black, Indigenous, and/or members of other racialized groups), minority sexual orientations or gender identities (e.g., 2SLGBTQIA+), and individuals with disabilities. You do not need to disclose which equity-seeking group(s) you belong to during the application, but you are welcome to do so if you wish. Awards may be used for professional development, conference travel or research.

**Award Terms of Reference**

1. The Student Discovery Award aims to promote diversity and inclusion in ornithology in Canada by supporting professional development, conference travel or ornithological research by a student at a Canadian university who self-identifies as being from an equity-denied group.

2. The Award shall be open to students conducting ornithological research at Canadian universities, except for previous recipients of the award or officers, councillors and grant committee members of SCO-SOC.

3. The Award shall be for travel to ornithological conferences at which the student will make a verbal or poster presentation OR research OR professional development in any aspect of ornithology anywhere in the world. A detailed budget is not required.

4. Selection of the awardee will be based on the quality of the proposed research, project, or professional development opportunity and its probability of successful completion.

5. Provided that a complete application is submitted, one Award of $500 will be made per year, to be paid directly to the awardee by SCO-SOC.

6. Recipients of the Award will be required to:

 a) submit to the SCO-SOC Awards Committee a progress report (maximum 2 pages), including a general statement on what the Award contributed towards, by December 31 of the year of the Award;

 b) write a brief popular account of their research, including objectives and preliminary findings, as applicable, for publication in ‘Picoides’, by March 1 of the year following receipt of the Award; and

 c) acknowledge support from the SCO-SOC Student Discovery Award in any conferences, scientific papers, and other articles based on the research funded by the Award.