

**02 February 2022**

## **A LOCAL NOBEL POSSIBILITY?**

Pearson College UWC has been nominated for the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize!

To be *completely* accurate, the [United World College movement](#), of which Metchosin-based Pearson was the second school to join back in 1974, was recently nominated for the prestigious award.

And, to keep everything in perspective, while many are nominated for the annual Peace Prize – which the College’s inspiration and namesake, [Lester B. Pearson](#), won in 1957 – those at the global school are still pretty stoked about the recognition of Pearson and the UWC movement.

Like all UWC schools, Pearson is an independent institution, and it is unique in hosting 200-plus students from across Canada and up to 80 countries in a given year. A significant majority of students attend thanks to financial support from donors who believe in the school’s long-standing commitment to peace and [sustainability](#).

The nomination by Norwegian parliamentarian [Alfred Bjørlo](#) was first reported in that country’s media and the news has been making its way across the globe.

Bjørlo, a long-time supporter of UWC Red Cross Nordic (Pearson’s UWC sibling school in Flekke, Norway), wrote in his submission, “Today I have nominated United World Colleges (UWC) for the Nobel Peace Prize 2022. Young people from all over the world meet, live together and take education in teams, at UWCs and this is one of the most important things we can do for peace and a better world.

Bjørlo added, “the basic idea of UWC to use education as a tool to create peace and forge ties across borders is, in my view, entirely in the spirit of Alfred Nobel.”

“We’re not popping champagne corks by any means, but the nomination is a fitting reminder about our close connection to Lester B. Pearson and his Nobel recognition,” said College Head Craig Davis. “His words – ‘How can there be peace without people understanding each other, and how can this be if they don’t know each other?’ are still foundational to our school.”

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## NAME OF DOCUMENT

The Pearson campus has been located on the traditional territory of the Sc'ianew First Nation along Pedder Bay for nearly five decades. While international in scope, the College has always leveraged its unique location to support place-based, experiential education. This fall, Pearson recommits to its sustainability focus by introducing the [Climate Action Leadership Diploma](#) as a new International Baccalaureate option for students.

### About Pearson College UWC

Founded as Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific (Canada) and located along Pedder Bay on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation.

Pearson's mission is "to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future" through a two-year pre-university (equivalent to grades 12 & 13) school for up to 200 students aged 16 to 19 selected from up to 160 countries and across Canada offering the International Baccalauréat Diploma Program. This year, about 80% attend on full or partial scholarships. Nearly 4,300 students have graduated from Pearson, including 14 who have gone on to become Rhodes Scholars.

For more information, please see [www.pearsoncollege.ca](http://www.pearsoncollege.ca) and our social media pages.

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