

PEARSON COLLEGE



March 2024

Pearson College UWC was **founded** as Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific (Canada) in 1974 and is one of 18 UWC (United World Colleges) schools **worldwide**. Located on the **traditional territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation**, the Pearson campus is on Pedder Bay which adjoins the Salish Sea on the Pacific coast of British Columbia, Canada.

The College's mission – "to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future" – is transformational. Pearson is a two-year pre-university (equivalent to grades 12 & 13) school for more than 200 leaders and changemakers aged 16 to 19 selected from up to 160 countries and all regions of Canada who live and learn together on campus. Most Pearson students, close to 75% annually, attend on full or partial scholarships made possible through individual and organizational donors.

To support our commitment to deliberate diversity, many students are from regions of conflict, refugee backgrounds or from challenging socioeconomic backgrounds. More than 4,300 Pearson **alumni** today work in a variety of professions around the world. Among many other achievements, 15 Pearson alumni have gone on to become Rhodes Scholars.

Pearson College UWC offers the **International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma**, the most recognized and respected high-school diploma in the world, and recently introduced an optional pathway, the IB career-related **Climate Action Leadership Diploma**. Developed to align with UWC values, in partnership with regional universities and a commitment to collaborate with climate experts, Indigenous elders and knowledge keepers, the program will see graduates pursue climate solutions as entrepreneurs, scientists, finance sector leaders, policymakers and more.

Both curricula include an emphasis on place-based experiential education that allows students to embrace a **broad learning experience** including academics, community service, leadership, physical pursuits, creative expression, hand-on activities and the lessons of learning and living in a global environment. All students and the entire campus community are full participants in the College's **Reconciliation Action Plan** to incorporate Indigenous knowledge in teaching and learning and ensure ours is a place of cultural safety for Indigenous and all students.

The College continues to be inspired by the vision of former Prime Minister and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (1957) **Lester B. Pearson** who was recognized for his work in creating the first United Nations peacekeeping force and defusing the 1956 Suez Crisis. In his Nobel Prize Lecture, he asked, "How can there be peace without people understanding each other, and how can this be if they don't know each other?" We honour this through our teaching and actions.

For more information, please see www.pearsoncollege.ca and our social media pages.

LESTER B. PEARSON COLLEGE OF THE PACIFIC AND UNITED WORLD COLLEGES (CANADA) INC

650 Pearson College Drive, Victoria, BC, Canada, V9C 4H7

P: +1 250 391 2411 E: info@pearsoncollege.ca www.pearsoncollege.ca

Located on the unceded territory of the SC'IA/NEW (Beecher Bay) First Nation.