

# MEDIA UPDATE/VIDEO

## PEARSON COLLEGE UWC

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## **Pearson College UWC, Global Educators @ Government House**

*Governor General & Lieutenant Governor meet UWC educators*

Victoria – Victoria’s [Pearson College UWC](#) -- Canada’s only United World College – is hosting nearly 70 education leaders from around the world this week at an event that kicked off with a recent reception at the B.C. Lieutenant Governor’s official residence.

Governor General Julie Payette – a graduate of UWC Atlantic in Wales and a strong supporter of the UWC Movement and the 17 UWC schools around the world – was guest of honour. Both the Governor General and Lieutenant Governor Janet Austin spoke to “UWCers” from Canada, China, eSwatini (formerly Swaziland), Germany and dozens of other countries at the Sunday evening reception.

“We have to work globally – and that was a privilege given to me in my teen years when I attended a UWC school,” said Ms. Payette. “Speaking with and sharing ideas with people from all over the world who bring different ways of thinking made us progress better and faster – this is what Pearson College impresses upon us.”

“The vision of welcoming students from all over the world, from all levels of society, from all cultures and religious backgrounds with the goal of promoting greater understanding and peace is a laudable one,” added Ms. Austin. “I’m very proud of our local connection with Pearson College.”

“Former prime minister Lester B. Pearson famously asked, ‘How can there be peace if we don’t understand each other and how can we understand each other if we don’t know each other? That is what the UWC is all about – creating a powerful, shared experience across diversity in all its forms,” said College President Désirée McGraw. “When the world is seeing a rise in narrow nationalism, indeed, tribalism, this shared, inclusive experience among young people from all walks of life...is more vital than ever.”

UWC educators are meeting both at the Pearson campus in Metchosin and in downtown Victoria. This is the first UWC global meeting on Vancouver Island in nearly 20 years.

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**Video Link:** [Pearson College UWC & UWC International](#)

### About [Pearson College UWC](#)

Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific ([Pearson College UWC](#)) is Canada's most globally-minded school. With an enrolment of up to 200 students, the College draws accomplished young leaders and change makers, ages 16-19, from nearly 160 countries and every province and territory of Canada. Pearson's two-year, pre-university curriculum is based on the International Baccalaureate (IB) program with a strong emphasis on experiential education at the residential campus on Pedder Bay. The College opened in 1974 and was created as a living legacy for former prime minister and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Lester B. Pearson. The College, located on the unceded territory of the Scia'new (Beecher Bay) First Nation, purposely recruits a deliberately diverse student body, including young people from regions of conflict and challenging socioeconomic circumstances, to encourage young people to learn and live together and to bring about meaningful changes in their communities and across the globe.

### Pearson College UWC

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