

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 20 February 2020

# A ONE-OF-A-KIND THEATRE EXPERIENCE: ONE WORLD PERFORMANCE & EXPO

### Pearson College UWC'S Annual International Performance & Expo

**VICTORIA, B.C.** — Every year, One World, a one-of-a-kind theatre experience, brings a world of international performances to the stage of the McPherson Playhouse as nearly 200 Pearson College UWC students showcase a diversity of cultures and experiences on March 20 and 21.

One World takes the audience on a fast-paced and marvelous journey across nations, oceans and cultures in a mix of multicultural music, dance and spoken word performances led by students from across Canada and around the world. Presented annually for decades, students are responsible for every aspect of the performance and student expo from choreography, scriptwriting, costume design to lighting, sound, presentation, technical support and conception and execution of the interactive Expo.

"One World is a one-of-a-kind experience," says President and Head of College Tyrone Pile. "Pearson students from very different countries and cultures share their personal stories, through song, dance, music and spoken word performances. No year is ever the same. I'm always amazed how our students, for whom many the theatre craft is new, create a professional-quality stage performance today and tomorrow they will be working together to craft positive change in their communities and around the world."

Pile added that this year's shows will feature the second annual special guest performance by the Beecher Bay (Scia'new) First Nation's drumming group, together with remarks by one of the Nation's leaders, welcoming guests to all three performances. "Reconciliation is one of Pearson's key initiatives," explains Pile, who himself is of Métis heritage. "Over the years, we have grown our relationship with the Scia'new First Nation and working together on a variety of projects in the spirit of reconciliation as friends and neighbours."

Each year, One World features audience favourites like the powerful Gumboot dance from South Africa, the Ukrainian dance visual spectacle and the hundred-voices choir, but no year is ever the same. In the McPherson lobby, the Expo showcases student initiatives and displays highlighting community and worldwide service and engagement, as well as the College's unique approach to education and the 4,200 Pearson graduates making a difference around the world.

Discount tickets (*Royal McPherson Box Office* / <u>www.rmts.bc.ca</u> / 250.386.6121) are available now for the Friday matinee dress rehearsal with regular-priced tickets for Saturday afternoon and evening performances. The Expo runs before and after all shows in the McPherson lobby.

#### **Times & Tickets:**

DRESS REHEARSAL Fri. 20 March @ 2 pm (All tickets \$15!)

MATINEE Sat. 21 March @ 2 pm (See below for ticket price)
EVENING Sat. 21 March @ 8 pm (See below for ticket price)

TICKETS \$30 adults / \$24 seniors, students

**VENUE** McPherson Playhouse, 3 Centennial Square, Victoria, B.C.

#### **About Pearson College UWC:**

In 1974, Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific was founded on a beautiful campus along the shores of the Pacific Ocean at Pedder Bay on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. We are proud and grateful to be living and learning on the unceded territory of the Scia'new (Beecher Bay) First Nation. Pearson is one of 18 UWCs (United World Colleges) worldwide.

Like all UWCs, the College believes that its 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 school for up to 200 exceptional students aged 16 to 19 selected to represent more than 100 countries in a given year and all regions of Canada who live, study, and grow together. The vast majority of Pearson students – 84% this year -- attend on full or partial scholarships made possible through generous individual and organizational donors.

To honour our commitment to deliberate diversity, many students are from regions of conflict, refugee backgrounds, and frequently from challenging socioeconomic backgrounds. To date, 14 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. One of the first schools in North America to offer the IB program. Students are offered the opportunity to embrace a whole education – a powerful one that pays equal respect to academics, service, leadership, physical pursuits, creative expression, experiential learning and the lessons of learning and living together.

#### For more information or to arrange an interview:

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