

## MEDIA ADVISORY@ Pearson College UWC

### *Meet Canadian youths taking court action on the climate crisis*

#### **Global Affairs Speaker Series: Pearson student and 14 other young people from across Canada launch first federal youth climate lawsuit**

Global Affairs is Pearson College UWC's premier speaker series that draws leading global experts from around the world and our own backyard. The Series is **free and open to all**.

**Who:** Haana Edenshaw, Lauren Wright & Catherine Boies Parker

**What:** Hear directly from two of the student co-plaintiffs and their legal representative  suing the federal government  for not taking adequate action on the climate crisis and why they decided to file this suit, what they hope to achieve and how this milestone action can be replicated to push governments around the world to prioritize climate justice.

**Where:** Max Bell Centre, Pearson College UWC, 650 Pearson College Dr. Metchosin

**When:** 2:45 p.m. Thursday, March 5

**Why:** Fifteen Canadian students, including one from Haida Gwaii currently attending Pearson College UWC, are co-plaintiffs in a Federal Court of Canada suit that alleges the federal government is, "actively and knowingly contributing to climate change, and not protecting their Charter and public trust rights from harms caused by the climate crisis."

**Haana Edenshaw** is a Pearson College student from the Tsitts Gitanee clan of the Haida Nation on Haida Gwaii. She has been an environmental justice and Indigenous rights activist throughout her life, including organizing climate strikes, speaking alongside Greta Thunberg at the Vancouver Rally for Climate Justice and delivering a speech in the Masset dialect of the Haida language at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Her deep commitment to social and environmental justice is rooted in the ancestral knowledge that land stewardship is both the basis of ecological health and essential to the practice and preservation of Indigenous culture.

**Lauren Wright** is a 15-year-old climate activist from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and is heavily involved with climate activism at the local level. She is involved in this litigation because she believes that it is our responsibility to preserve the earth for all of its current and future inhabitants.

## PEARSON COLLEGE



**Catherine Boies Parker, QC** is a lawyer with Arvay Finlay LLP and a counsel for the plaintiffs in *La Rose v. Her Majesty the Queen*. Her expertise includes constitutional, privacy, environmental, and indigenous law. She is the founding president of the Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Litigation, a former director of the Mary Manning Centre, Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Society of Greater Victoria, and a former Chair of the ORCA Children’s Advocacy Centre Society.

***Good to Know:***

- Pearson College UWC is closer than you think! Click [here](#) for directions.
- Parking is free & easy – there is a paved walk up a small hill from the main parking lot to the Max Bell Centre.
- Watch for updates on Pearson’s Coming Events on our [social media](#) channels.

For more information, contact [communications@pearsoncollege.ca](mailto:communications@pearsoncollege.ca)