

November 16, 2022

Pearson College UWC alumnae named Rhodes Scholar

Tess Casher 15th Rhodes Scholar from Victoria-area College

METCHOSIN, B.C. – [Pearson College UWC](#) graduate and Yukon resident Tess Casher was this week named one of 11 Canadians to be awarded a [Rhodes Scholarship, Class of 2023](#).

Casher, the 15th student from Pearson to receive a Rhodes Scholarship, attended the two-year, pre-university college on the traditional territory of the Sc'ianew First Nation from 2017 to 2019 and is currently an Honours English major at [Mount Allison University](#) in Sackville, New Brunswick.

The scholarship is a highly competitive postgraduate award given to exceptional students from around the world to study at the University of Oxford in the U.K. with the aim of nurturing public-minded leaders of the future.

"I'm still in a state shock! I'm incredibly grateful to all my communities that helped me develop my passions and scholarship," said Casher. "I loved my time at Pearson and UWC helped me grow as a person and a scholar. I'm beyond grateful to the college and the UWC movement!"

Casher excelled in several areas during her time at Pearson, Canada's most international school and one of only 18 United World Colleges across the globe. Among other achievements, she participated in the [2019 Race Rocks Challenge](#) cold-water, long-distance swim, was active as a kayaker and outrigger paddler and wrote and edited student publications.

As a first-year student, Casher presented a TEDx talk on "The Art of Stuttering" from the perspective of a young person born with a speech impediment which allowed her to gain a unique perspective on communication within societies. Casher's interest in this continues having recently written a middle-grade novel, *Impedi(me)ents on Ice*, which will be published in 2023 and will supplement clinical training at the Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research.

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NEWS RELEASE

“Together with the entire worldwide Pearson alumni community, we congratulate Tess and wish her every success in her continuing studies at Oxford and beyond,” said President and Head of College Craig Davis. “Tess is remembered by many here on campus and her continuing academic and extracurricular achievements come as no surprise.”

Davis added that to see 15 alumni receive this honour over the school’s history is a recognition of not only the academic and experiential curricula offered at Pearson, but of the quality and discipline of students attracted to the College from (this year) 94 countries around the world.

Casher, who has lived in five places on three continents, indicated her goal is to obtain a [MSt in English Literatures](#) with a focus on the Victorian era, beginning an academic career that explores literature’s influence on readers’ engagement with global challenges.

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