

17 November 2022

VICTORIA'S INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL ON INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' DAY

On [International Students' Day](#), [Pearson College UWC](#), Canada's most global school with students from 94 countries and territories this year, is proud to announce the appointment of international educator [Jason McBride](#) as President and Head of College, effective August 2023.

Located southwest of Victoria, on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew First Nation, Pearson is Canada's only United World College, one of 18 UWCs across the globe.

"I'm truly excited to be selected to lead Pearson College UWC into its next phase of global education towards peace and a sustainable future," said McBride, Head of School at [IGB International School](#).

Currently based in Malaysia, McBride brings more than 20 years of global educational leadership and intercultural understanding, including several years as Head of College at [UWC Thailand](#), a sister school to Pearson.

"The opportunity to lead international and independent schools around the world is a privilege," he added. "The opportunity for me, as a Canadian, to return to Canada and support Pearson's momentum, particularly in ground-breaking programs such as the [Climate Action Leadership Diploma](#), sustainability and Indigenous reconciliation, has me incredibly excited."

Following an extensive global search supported by a global leadership consulting firm and a committee of Pearson's Board of Directors, each finalist candidate took part in a rigorous day of meetings with College advisory groups representing faculty, staff and students and intensive interviews with the Board committee.

PEARSON COLLEGE



“We were fortunate to have had an amazing pool of candidates who expressed interest in leading Pearson,” said Gloria Metzger, who led the Board committee. “In the end, we felt Jason was most capable of taking the College forward as we implement our [five-year Strategic Plan, Indigenous Reconciliation Plan](#) as well as our new [Climate Action Leadership Diploma](#).”

“This is a promising time to be leading Pearson,” added Board Chair Anne McLellan. “Jason will be guiding us as we approach the College’s 50th anniversary in 2024-25 which will set the stage for the College’s next era.”

“I look forward to getting to know and working with the students, the Board, alumni, supporters, and donors, as well as the College’s incredible faculty and staff,” said McBride. “I want to continue to build relationships with our neighbours on the [Sc’ianew First Nation](#), in British Columbia and across Canada.”

McBride was born and raised in Toronto and received undergraduate degrees from McMaster University (B. Kin) and Queen’s University (B. Ed), before pursuing his master’s degree with Michigan State University and completing his Doctoral coursework at the University of Calgary (all but dissertation). He will be joining the campus community with his spouse and two daughters, ages 11 and 13.

Current President & Head Craig Davis, who announced earlier that he will be leaving the College for personal family reasons after this school year, is continuing in his role to ensure a smooth leadership transition in summer 2023.

-30-

With 200+ students from every province and territory and up to 160 or more nations, [Pearson College UWC](#) is Canada’s most international school and one of 18 United World Colleges across the globe. The College opened in 1974 inspired by the vision of Prime Minister and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Lester B. Pearson who asked, “How can there be peace without people understanding each other, and how can this be if they don’t know each other?”

Media Contacts: bgeary@pearsoncollege.ca
nmende@pearsoncollege.ca
awalker@pearsoncollege.ca

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’ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation