MEDIA ALERT/INVITATION

First ISABC Youth Environmental Conference to Attract 250+ Students

Speakers, scholars & students to highlight positive action to support sustainability

16 February 2023 – The first-ever Independent Schools Association of British Columbia (ISABC) Youth Environmental Conference Friday, Feb. 24 provides Lower Mainland media with an unprecedented opportunity to hear from and speak with some of the province's brightest young changemakers focused on the environment, climate action and sustainability.

Adult educators and thought leaders, such as renown environmentalism-with-hope speaker Dr. Elin Kelsey, will also participate during the day-long event on the University of British Columbia campus. The 40+ sessions, beginning at 9:45 a.m. with a keynote presentation by Dr. Kelsey, focus on four main streams: Biodiversity, Sustainability, Taking Action and Climate Change.

Students from across the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island will take part, including those from Pearson College UWC's leading-edge Climate Action Leadership Diploma program. The two-year International Baccalaureate-backed CALD program is among the first of its kind in the world for a high school-aged cohort.

Over 50 presenters are expected, including:

- Michelle Xie, Climate Resilient Communities Lead, UBC
- Dr. Kai Chan, Co-founder of CoSphere, UBC professor and Canada Research Chair
- **Douw Gerbrnd Steyn**, PhD, UBC Professor Emeritus
- Pearson College UWC CALD students Fawz, Syarif, Maddy, Sophie, Molly & Ziah

For more information, including locations, schedule and speakers, please visit: ISABC Environmental Student Conference: Schedule

-30-

About <u>ISABC</u>: ISABC is an association of 27 forward-looking schools distinguished by outstanding educational experiences and opportunities; leadership development; preparation for post-secondary placements and nurturing the development of international understanding.

About <u>Pearson College UWC:</u> Located along Pedder Bay on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation, Pearson's mission is "to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future" through a two-year pre-university curriculum for students aged 16 to 19 selected from up to 160 countries and across Canada.

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