

Pearson Project Week Welcomes Media to Cover Diverse Community Projects and Outdoor Adventures

Over a dozen activities led by students in Victoria and across Vancouver Island

Metchosin, B.C., 14 March 2024 - Pearson College UWC is thrilled to promote our annual "Project Week," that sees more than 200 students from nearly 100 countries taking part of week-long immersions in community service and cultural exchange.

From March 18 through 22, students will engage in one of 16 different group projects in Greater Victoria and Vancouver Island, ranging from environmental and mental health initiatives to community outreach programs. With a diverse array of activities tailored to suit various interests and skill sets, it promises to be a transformative experience for all involved.

"It's not just about giving back to the community, but also about fostering meaningful connections and cultural understanding among our diverse student body, who should have the opportunity to work with others they do not encounter in their regular classes and activities," said Garth Irwin, Faculty Member and lead organizer. "While it will undoubtedly be a memorable experience for all participants, the emphasis on giving back during Project Week remains paramount as well as learning through new experiences and physical challenges. We look forward to facilitating these adventures and making a positive impact together."

Media representatives are invited to visit and cover projects of their choosing, including several based in downtown Victoria, including:

Hearth: Working with [The Foundry](#) to identify and interview for a short documentary-style film that will form part of a series of community engagement events which address the opioid crisis in Victoria. [The Hearth group](#) was recently chosen as one of three finalists for the prestigious [2024 international Young Aurora](#) Award. The winner will be announced on Monday, March 18th.

Art Exploration: Students will be immersed in contemporary art, experiencing city life while visiting local galleries and Royal BC Museum for inspiration. At the end, they will hold a collective exhibition to fundraise and spread awareness for global issues.

Women Around Us: Interviewing women who have immigrated to Victoria and inviting them to talk about their experiences living in the Capital city.

Ukrainian Dance: Great photo opportunities as a high energy group practices and performs for an April event. Easter egg painting, Motanka doll creation and varenyky (perogy) making are also planned.

PEARSON COLLEGE UWC

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Located on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation

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Forging in FIRE!: More great photo ops as students learn the basics of forging metal, travelling to [Stewart Mountain Forge](#) where qualified instructors will teach the principals and practices of blacksmithing.

For media representatives outside Victoria, there are exciting opportunities to cover a group service beyond the city:

Surfing in Tofino: Learning how to surf for the first time, while working with the Tofino Food Initiative and community garden to give back to their host community.

Sea to Sky Hikes up to Strathcona Provincial Park: Seven days of hiking uphill in every element while camping in various locations along the way.

Skiing for Beginners: International students, who may or may not have ever experienced snow, learn how to ski at Mount Washington.

Kayaking and Sailing the Gulf Islands: Embarking on a one-of-a-kind trip to southern and northern Gulf Islands, including Salt Spring, Pender, and Hornby Island.

Media representatives interested in attending are encouraged to view the attached map and to contact school media relations reps listed.

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About Pearson College UWC

Founded as Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific (Canada) and 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 (equivalent to grades 12 & 13) school for more than 200 students aged 16 to 19 selected from up to 160 countries and across Canada offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. This year, about 75% attend on full or partial scholarships. Nearly 4,300 students have graduated from Pearson, including 15 who have become Rhodes Scholars.

For more information, please see www.pearsoncollege.ca and our [social media pages](#).

Media Contacts

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