

PEARSON COLLEGE UWC

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The “world” returns to Metchosin

Pearson College UWC students back to campus from 80+ nations

Pedder Bay – Going “back to school” has an entirely different meaning when you travel halfway around the world to get to the Pearson College UWC campus on Pedder Bay.

“Our students have been making their way to Pearson from nations around the world for 44 years now -- from Argentina to Zimbabwe and everywhere in between,” says President and Head of College Désirée McGraw.

During the week of August 28, 100 new first-year students joined 80 returning second-year students at Canada’s only UWC (United World College) school. From more than 80 countries this year, and every province and territory of Canada, some of the brightest 16-to-19-year-olds in the world make Metchosin their home.

Pearson’s deliberate diversity mandate is unique among pre-university, global education schools. It means students are chosen based on merit, not on their ability to pay. Up to 90 per cent of Pearson students last year received full or partial scholarships, opening the door wider for students whose families may be refugees or who may not have the economic resources to make this type of education possible.

In addition to a demanding academic curriculum and a rigorous outdoor-oriented expeditionary education, students perform community service jobs and independent projects that will see them working in Metchosin and across the Capital Region District.

PRESS RELEASE

About Pearson College UWC

Pearson College UWC (www.pearsoncollege.ca) is Canada's most globally-minded school and one of 17 United World Colleges around the globe. With an enrolment of up to 200 students, the College draws accomplished young leaders and change makers, ages 16-19, from up to than 150 countries and every province and territory of Canada. Pearson's two-year, pre-university curriculum is based on the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and features a strong emphasis on experiential education at the residential campus on Pedder Bay near the southern tip of Vancouver Island. The College opened in 1974 and was named as a living legacy for former prime minister and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Lester B. Pearson. The College purposely recruits a deliberately diverse student body, including young people from regions of conflict and challenging socioeconomic circumstances, to encourage young people to learn and live together to bring about meaningful changes in their communities and across the globe.

Photo Captions

#1 --Back-to-School at Pearson College UWC means most students travel from points across Canada and around the world. The excitement on the Metchosin campus this week was infectious as returning students caught up with each other's summer adventures around the world.

#2 --Pearson College UWC students from around the world board the school's bus for the last leg of their lengthy trips from their respective homes to the Metchosin campus on Pedder Bay.

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