

LFAS November 2011/2012 Grad Newsletter

Answers to the many Questions that I am asked in the Counselling Office



Q: Who reads this newsletter? (Silly me no one has asked me this!)

A: Hopefully every grade 12 student and their parents as it not just about going to University.

Q: I don't have a report card so how do I get my marks?

A: I have been around to every major and handed out a form to every student who requires their marks now-- either to self report or to send

in a transcript to the University. You take the form to all your teachers and then they give you the mark and sign it. If you need an official transcript then take this form to Mrs. Taylor in the office and she will create a transcript for you. If you did not receive a form please come to counselling to receive one. You only need to get a transcript when the University requests it.

Q: What if I have no clue as what I want to do next September?

A: You are not alone however I suggest you continue with your journey of life by traveling or volunteering abroad. A Gap year is a wonderful way to travel and meet new friends from all over the world. Take a look at Katimavik as well. Katimavik offers Canadian youth the opportunity to contribute to the sustainable development of communities across Canada through challenging volunteer service programs. Also give thought to what TV shows you love to watch, books you love to read, what fascinates you in the world around you, what you would do as a dream job. Combine all of these things and see what evolves. You are not committing yourself for life; your journey will take any turns, so just get started and see what comes your way.

Q: I want to go to University in the lower mainland but my parents do not have any money saved up. What do I do?

A: You can apply for scholarships and especially ones given by LFAS. You will be told more about this in January 2012. Check the Graduation page on the LFAS website for more information. If you have high marks (above 86%) in your grade 10, 11, 12 provincial exams (only the exam part of Math 10, English 10, science 10, Social 11, English 12) you may automatically be given at least a \$1000. Also go to the Financial Aid at the college that you wish to go to they will be able to help you. It is very usual for students to work part time during term time (apparently the optimum hours is 19!!) Summer work can provide you with lots of savings. On campus there are opportunities to work for professors/faculty staff. You can live at home, work and go to school.

Q: I have average marks –C's and B's can I still go to University?

A: Yes you certainly can. Obviously the institution will take the students with the higher marks first, but they want to fill every seat they can so apply anyway--As long as you love learning from books.

They will mostly look at your English mark and if it is not high enough then you can take their first year English course. UBC Okanagan and University of Victoria have lower average entrance marks. You can also start at the University of the Fraser Valley by doing an Associate Degree for 2 years and then you can go on to a full degree based on your marks at University.

Q: I know where I want to go. IS there any point in applying for the three Post Secondary Institutions that you mentioned?

A: Absolutely yes there is a point. Firstly you may not get into the program that you want e.g. music or kinesiology or cooking and secondly if you have really high marks one University may offer you a big scholarship. That in the end may be the deciding factor.

Q: What if I don't like school?

A: If you do not like learning from books and writing essays then you might need a more hands on training. But it is still school. It is very hard to get beyond a minimum wage with no training at all.

Check out Kwantlen they have all sorts of training for jobs that do not require the same book work e.g. Computer Aided Design & Drafting (CADD) Technologies, Certificate in Advance Farrier (Hoofing horse) Diploma in Fashion Design, Certificate in home support resident care, Diploma in (Golf) turf management, Certificate in Music, Diploma in Music-Guitar, Certificate in Welding and much more. Also go to Vancouver Community College and see the cooking programs, practical nursing, dental receptionist co-ordinator, medical office assistant, dental hygienist, interpreting certificate (for the deaf) pharmacy Technician, wedding planner, wine taster, hospitality management etc. All a sky train station away. http://www.vcc.ca/programs-courses/college-programs-area.cfm?DIV_ID=6 BCIT has some amazing courses and Capilano University has global stewardship, film, jazz, animation etc, Douglas College is great for journalism and photography

Q: How do I go about getting an apprenticeship?

A: This can be started even before you leave school in grade 11. Or if not then you can go to Kwantlen Trades school in Cloverdale and in addition be taken on by an employer e.g. carpentry, welding, automotive service technician, plumbing etc. Once you have your ticket you can usually go anywhere in Canada (If you have Red Seal standard)and eventually have your own business.

Q: What jobs make the most money?

A: Depends-the general rule of thumb is that you begin a journey that will take you to something that you really love doing. On your journey the more qualifications and the longer you are in school then the more likely you will be to have more money at your disposal. Essentially you have to find something that you are passionate about and become officially qualified in it with certificates, diplomas, degrees, post graduate degrees-as high as you are able and willing to go.

Q: Where am I likely to get a good job?

A: Well if you are interested in helping people then Health Care and Social Assistance is the fastest growing industry, due to an aging work force and an aging population. The next fastest growing industry is Retail and Wholesale. Why not be taken on by a large company and make your way up with the firm? There is no limit to your success just make sure you love doing it.

Q: My parents say I can't do anything in the Arts like music or art because it does not make any money.

A: Follow your passion and make it work for you. SFU has incredible combination of Arts and entrepreneurship in their school of Contemporary Arts in Vancouver. Capilano University has 2 and 3D Animation, Van Arts has Game Art, Visual effects, Don't do something you are not going to enjoy for 40 years!!!!

Q: How can I go into sciences from a Fine Arts School?

A: Langley Fine Arts School will give you all the required courses for any career in science at post secondary. Chemistry 11 and 12, Physics 11 and 12, Math 12 and possibly Biology 12.

Q: How can the universities give a conditional acceptance in January when they have not seen your grade 12 marks?

A: You will be asked for your November marks in grade 12 and again in April. You are only conditionally offered a place until the April report card.

Q: What is an Associate degree?

A: An Associate degree is the first two years of a degree. You then can if you want transfer to another University to complete the next two years.

Q: What is a Bachelor Degree?

A: A bachelor degree is the first degree that you can do at University. It usually takes four years full time to complete. Sometimes it is called undergraduate.

Q: What is a graduate program?

A: A graduate program is a Masters in something and then next is a Ph.D. or Doctor of Philosophy which can be in all subjects (not just Philosophy)

Q: What is the difference between a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science?

A: They are both degrees of equal value but they divide the two main areas of learning Arts and Science.

Q: How do I know if I have enough credits to graduate?

A: Most students who have attended LFAS from grade 10 will graduate as they have been exposed to all the academic requirements and many electives through the Arts. The school is sent a complete record of every Grade 12 student in November 2011 and again in April 2012. This information will let us know who is not eligible to graduate. This is usually because a student forgot to take a class like PE 10 or failed socials 11 and has not completed it yet. These students will be informed of their Non Grad Status before Christmas.

Q: What is Non Grad Status?

A: Non Grad Status as of April 13th 2012:

- If a grade 12 student is trailing a grade 10 or 11 compulsory course, does not have four grade 12 courses or is missing an elective credit.
- If a grade 12 student is taking a compulsory course or an essential elective course on line. If they have passed over 50% of the course by June 1st then they their names will appear on the commencement /dinner dance programs. After that if they reach the above amount then they can attend both but their name will not appear on the program.

Q: What is my P.E.N.?

A: This means your Personal Education Number and is on the top right of your report card. If you cannot find it please ask Ms De Little.

Q: Can I change my course once I have started college or University?

A: Yes most diplomas/degrees etc in the first two years can be changed. Each degree requires certain courses (pre requisites) to be taken but they can then be converted into elective courses if you change your degree. Sometimes you have to take additional courses e.g. if going from English to science

Q: How will my post secondary institution know about my June exams?

A: you will fill out a PSI form on the ministry website and your marks will be forwarded directly to the university or college that you are going to in Canada.

Q; I want to make a difference in the world. How do I begin?

A: Starting with the commitment is the best place to begin. We all have it in us to do make a difference. Gillian Le Prairie recently said to us that we have no choice but to give back. At the Compassion 2 Action day in 2009 at LFAs we learned that even the smallest thing like a smile or non random acts of kindness make a difference. We also learned that making a difference can be done locally, globally or both. They are not mutually exclusive. Start on your journey of pursuing your passion with an open heart. Gradually your skills that you gain along the way, your passion, and your commitment will lead you to a path where it just feels right to be giving back. From the weavers in Peru, the Orangutans in Borneo, the children in Project Kenya Sister Schools, and the homeless in Vancouver to the thousands of needy causes – somehow through whatever your belief system is or is not, one will call you and you will know how you can make a difference. There is no time limit on making a difference.

Dates

- Grad Photos are taken by Lifetouch. Every grad needs their picture taken for yearbook/grad composite and you can order prints for yourself. Photos will be taken January 3rd to January 13th 2012 after school, location to be announced. Book your appointment in the office before November 30th. Retakes are in February.
- Grad Cruise January 20th 2012 tickets will go on sale after December 1st 2011. The students who have incomplete portfolio work from grade 12 will be expected to complete all the work and fulfil additional requirements by December 1st 2011 in order to be able to buy a ticket etc. We will meet at 4pm in the cafeteria (or library). Pizza will be served and then immediately we will head off for Vancouver. We will set sail at 6pm. Students who have dates must have guest pass request signed and those who are over the age of 18 must meet Mr. Bonnar. Note---- no one will be allowed to join us down at the dock. Everyone has to leave on the bus from LFAS. Every student is searched for alcohol etc on entering the boat. Anyone found with alcohol on them will not be allowed to continue on the cruise. Cost is \$70
- Portfolio Day will be on May 4th 2012, 1pm in the library. This is the only day scheduled for presentations.
- Best of... Show (Grade 12 students pick the best performances/pieces from their majors) Tuesday June 8th 2012 7pm
- Commencement will be on Wednesday, June 13th, 2012. Tickets will go on sale in May 2012. Grad rehearsal will begin at 10.30 on the same day when gowns are to be given out at LFAs followed by a BBQ. (Parents are needed to do this part)
- Newlands Grad Dinner/Dance will be held Wednesday, June 27th, 2012. Tickets will go on sale in May 2012.
- Dry Grad. Who is the contact person for this? I have some information to pass on to the group.



Need to talk to people about all your choices for post secondary- Then check these out

Finding out about Canadian Universities not in BC

If you want to compare Universities in Canada and check out their scholarships go to the following:
www.canlearn.ca

You want to go to post Secondary school but not sure what to study

www.educationplanner.bc.ca

(For public BC schools).

Transcripts

Sign up in the school office for transcripts **only** if your college or University has asked for them or you need to self report marks.

ONLINE POST SECONDARY INSTITUTION (PSI) SELECTIONS for STUDENTS

This is an electronic way for your University or college to have all your marks to them as soon as they come out in August. So as soon as you know which Post secondary Institute you are going to then you can fill out this form. This will save you having to send your transcript in by post in August. Some students find this process difficult to do so please book a time with me and we can do it together.

The PSI Selections form is now available online for students graduating this year. Paper "PSI Choices Forms" will no longer be sent to schools. This electronic PSI Selections form should only be submitted by students who expect to graduate this year and are applying to a PSI.

Students access this online form by logging into the Student Secure Web

(SSW) site: <https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/> and click the "Post Secondary Institutions Selections" menu option. Note that students who do not yet have a SSW account will need to create one prior to gaining access to the PSI Selections form.

For further information on Post Secondary Institution sign up visit our very own BC School Counsellor website.

<http://www.bcschoolcounsellor.com/>

UBC Major Entrance Scholarship

Any student wishing to be considered for nomination for the UBC Major entrance Award must complete all the requirements for this scholarship by January 31st 2012. LFAS I will select two of you to be nominated for consideration of this scholarship.

TRIUMF at UBC \$3000

For those with a passion for science especially physics. <http://www.triumf.ca/outreach/high-school-fellowship>

Language Proficiency Exam

If you are going into Science at UBC you will need to take this exam. Sign up online .
University of Victoria does not require this extra exam. Only Humanities needs a language 11

SAT Exam

Students can apply to write the SAT exams needed for academic programs in the U.S. at www.collegeboard.org. Look for international dates. Our school code required on the application is **821149**.

Scholarship Information

- **The BC Awards online** was shut down in September as many of you found out but it has now been taken over by the BC School Counsellors Association and can be found at www.bcawardsonline.org/ This is an excellent site for scholarships.
- **Terry Fox humanitarian Award**
www.terryfoxawards.ca
- **Student Scholarships.org** has scholarships for things like “Icelandic Canadian Club, Great Question Essay Competition for anyone who likes to debate there is \$2000 waiting for you
www.studentscholarship.org
- **Student Awards**
Great places to check out scholarships <http://www.studentawards.com/>
- **BC Government and Service Union-- \$36,000** of scholarship opportunities if a parent is a BCGEU member including students with a learning disability. www.bcgeu.ca
- **University of Alberta.** Entrance scholarship forms available from website

Please Note

If you need a letter of reference then use the **TWO** forms on the website under graduation/scholarship. You will need to give myself or Mr. Bonnar or your teacher, **two weeks** turn around for the letters. Last minute reference letters are not going to happen!! If you want a great reference then you need to ensure we have time to create a relevant letter that reflects all of your wonderful strengths. If you are going for the big money then please ensure that you meet the criteria. School marks count but the organizers are mostly looking for students who consistently give back to their community over a number of years and have shown initiative in making a true difference to the lives of others.

MDL

This Grad newsletter has been brought to you by Ms. De Little who does not take responsibility for any mistakes in this newsletter that she might possibly have made.

Post -Secondary University and College Information

Many of the major colleges and universities have sent their latest calendars and program information to us. Please come to the counselling center to check out any prospective college or university.

UVIC is advertising early admission / self reporting. If you apply to UVIC before Nov. 30th, and self-report your Grade 11 marks, you may be offered conditional acceptance with a GPA of 85-89%. U VIC wants LFAS students!!

Check <https://registrar.uvic.ca/safa/scholarships/stepstoapplyentrancescholarships.html> for more scholarships. Final registration is February 28th 2012

SFU is now encouraging students to apply as early as Nov. 1st. The early admissions/scholarship deadline is Feb. 28th, 2012 if you have applied to **UFV (applications opened on Oct. 1st)** or **SFU** you must let me or Mr. Bonnar know by February 2012.

Douglas College Some programs at requires a Transcript sent immediately. Please check their website, or your confirmation letter.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University Kwantlen will begin accepting mailed and online applications on **Nov. 1st**. Because they fill their programs on a first come/ first in basis, it is important to have your application in right away. You can apply by mail or on-line at www.pas.bc.ca.

Students applying to Nursing or Computer Information Systems should apply in person (you will need additional documents). Look at the course and program calendars to decide on your two programs of choice. You will need your PEN number, SIN number and a credit card to apply online. **Kwantlen Polytechnic University** is offering Bachelor of Business Admin, Bachelor of Applied Communications, Bachelor of Arts, (including Asian Studies, Sociology, Sustainability, Visual Arts) Bachelor of Product Design, Bachelor of Health Science, Bachelor of Sustainable Science, Bachelor of Science in Applied Psychology, Bachelor of Technology in Sustainable Horticulture.

Kwantlen is continuously holding orientation sessions for students and their parents. Check the website at www.kwantlen.ca/events.html

BC Institute of Technology-New Information in the counselling office-It is such a great school check it out!!!! Bio technology, renewable resources-fish wildlife, Interior design, Computer information technology, Airline and flight operations-commercial pilot

Capilano College Open Studio Day November 21st 2011 for an open house. Capilano is now granting full degrees (4 year programs) in Bus. Admin., Tourism Management Jazz Studies, and Music Therapy. <http://fnaa.info/>

Also at Capilano University early placement in the Theatre program i.e. acting for stage and screen Diploma, Musical Theatre Program --Information Session November 23rd 11.30 -1pm Cedar Building.

http://fnaa.info/events?search=&for_events

Simon Fraser University This University is based in three places-Burnaby, down town Vancouver and Surrey Central Sky train station. I have just visited the surrey campus and it is amazing. There are tours every Thursday -it is a must see especially if you are interested in Technology, Science, Literature, Humanities, (pre Med). It means you can go to University but live at home and in two buses from Fort Langley you are there. (University of Fraser Valley requires your own transportation!) If you are interested in the Contemporary Arts with the intention of creating your own business then down town Vancouver in the converted Woodward's building is the place to be.

SFU requires the four provincially examinable courses but only beginners Italian not two years. (Not sure about the level of French but not Grade 11.

University of British Columbia **The** deadline for your application is January 30th and you have to fill out a personal profile so allow a few hours!! You must have an average of over 86% in your four academic courses to be considered

Entrance scholarships for UBC, SFU etc

This is not done on a first come first served basis. Please give your name to Mr. Bonnar and Ms. De Little if you wish to be nominated by January 31st 2012 a selection process will then take place by February 14th, 2011.

Ontario universities Students interested in applying to or colleges should check with their school of choice how to apply. Most universities and colleges can be applied to through an application center for three universities. The on-line application form can be found at www.ouac.on.ca

Wilfred Laurier University

NEW! 100 Centennial Scholarships. This year Wilfred Laurier University, located in Waterloo, Ontario, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary with 100 full tuition entrance scholarships. Our goal is to attract the most promising students from around the world who will make a mark on our community, during their time at Laurier and beyond. In order to be eligible for a Laurier Centennial Scholarship, the student must:

Be entering their first year as a full-time undergraduate OR graduate student at Laurier

Demonstrate the Laurier DNA:

Show leadership within the community, volunteering, employment and extracurricular activities

Display accomplishments through awards and achievements

Have a minimum cumulative average of 80% at the time they are applying

Do you know a student who possesses the 'Laurier DNA' of leadership, passion and achievement? If so nominate them at chooselaurier.ca/100nominations or encourage them to apply at chooselaurier.ca/100 today!

Other Useful Information

Work BC Parents' guide

Lots of helpful hints for parents and students post secondary options. www.workbc.ca

If you are looking to do a certificate program in Early Childhood Education, hairstyling or as a building service worker check out the programs at Langley College, www.langleycollege.com

Work in the Houses of Parliament in Ottawa and study

Students applying for a university in the National Capital Region may also apply to the **House of Commons Page** program. This is an exciting opportunity for students wishing to pursue Government Employment, Law, or Political Studies. You must have French experience.

<http://www.admission.uottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=2631>

Gap Year

Information is in the counselling center for GAP (one year abroad). It is now called "Latitude" www.lattituedeCanada.org

This would be good for anyone interested in Global Citizenship activities.

Other programs of this type include Katimavik, and the Global Stewardship program at Capilano College.

For something really different for your first year, look into the **International Study Center in Herstmonceux Castle** in England. This study center is affiliated with several Canadian universities and offers a first year program studying abroad. www.herstmonceux-castle.com

Burger King Scholarship 15 million \$\$\$\$\$\$ in awards

<http://www.haveyourwayfoundation.org>

Just in-----Kwantlen Polytechnic University great Fashion design and marketing courses www.kwantlen.ca/fashion

Alberta College of Art and Design

The Pre-College Program at ACAD is a CREDITED immersion in post-secondary art+design studies for high school students 16-18 years who have completed grade 10 (sophomore year). It is a chance for your students to get an early experience with post-secondary level classes, taught by ACAD faculty in our college studio setting. This program is a great way for students to ease their transition into college, and is taught to the same curriculum and expectation levels as all First Year Studies courses, in an environment committed to positive support for each student.

Counsellor workshop

Learn all about what it takes to be a Counsellor

December 8th see Ms De little for info