



November 2009 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: What if I have no clue as to 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 many 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 March 2010. If you have high marks (above 85%) you may automatically be given at least a \$1000. Also go to the Financial Aid at the college that you wish to go to and 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.

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. They will mostly look at your English mark and if it is not high enough then you can take their first year English course.

Q: I know where I want to go. Is there any point in applying for 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 (Hooving 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

Q: How do I go about getting an apprenticeship?

A: This can be started even before your 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 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.

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 my grade 12 marks?

A: For those of you applying now you are asked to submit your grade 11 marks either through the computer or the summary of all your courses called a transcript. The Post Secondary Institution will have a good idea what you are likely to do in your grade 12 year just by looking at your grade 11 marks.

Q: What is an Associate degree?

A: An Associate degree is the first two years of a degree. You then can 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: What is my P.E.N.?

A: This means your Personal Education Number and is on the top left 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: Most diplomas/degrees etc in the first two years can be changed. Sometimes you have to take additional courses e.g. if going from English to science

Q: When are my January exams exactly?

A; Go to the following link for all of your provincial exams http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/handbook/0910_schedule.pdf

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 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 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 –some how through what ever 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 caring.



Dates

1. 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 5th to January 14th after school, location to be announced. Book your appointment in the office after November 30th. Retakes are February 3rd to 4th.
2. Grad Cruise January 29th 2010 tickets will go on sale in December.
 - a. This will be going ahead but the students who have incomplete portfolio work from grade 11 will be expected to complete all the work and fulfill additional requirements.
 - b. 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.
 - c. Students who have dates must have guest pass request signed and those who are over the age of 18 must meet Mr. Moorthy.
 - d. Note---- no one will be allowed to join us down at the dock. Every one has to leave on the bus from LFAS. Every student is searched for alcohol etc on entering the boat. Any one found with alcohol on them will not be allowed to continue on the cruise.
3. Grad sleep over will be held on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 from 5 pm to 6 am the next morning. We will have a potluck dinner.
4. Portfolio Day will be on April 30th 2010, 1pm in the library. This is the only day scheduled for presentations.
5. Best of... Show (Grade 12 students pick the best performances/pieces from their majors) Tuesday June 8th 2010 7pm \$5 a ticket to raise money for the Grad Dinner/Dance.
6. Commencement will be on Friday, June 18th, 2010. Tickets will go on sale in May.
7. Newlands Grad Dinner/Dance will be held Wednesday, June 23rd, 2010. Tickets will go on sale in May.

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

1. Finding out about Canadian Universities not in BC
 - a. If you want to compare Universities in Canada and check out their scholarships go to the following: www.canlearn.ca
2. You want to go to post Secondary school but not sure what to study
 - a. www.educationplanner.bc.ca (For public BC schools).

Transcripts

Sign up in Counselling for transcripts if your college or University has asked for them. -Do not ask Mrs. Taylor

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/>

Language Proficiency Exam

Should be taken if you have English 12 second semester and you are going to University. This way the University can see if your English is high enough (5 or a 6) without waiting until August for your provincial mark to come through. The exam will be held here at LFAS on April 8th, 2010. You can register in January but for more information, go to <http://www.ares.ubc.ca/LPI/index.html>

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.

Work BC Parents' guide

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

Early Childhood Education

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.lattitudcanada.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

International Study

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

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](http://www.student Scholarships.org) has scholarships for things like "Icelandic Canadian Club, Great Question Essay Competition for any one 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

BC School Trustees Student Citizenship Award www.bcsta.org

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. Moorthy 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

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%. UVIC wants LFAS students!!

Check <https://registrar.uvic.ca/safa/scholarships/stepstoapplyentrancescholarships.html> for more scholarships

Emily Carr

is holding its National Portfolio Day on Sat. Dec. 6th, with Portfolio reviews that afternoon. Tours of the school will also be offered on this day. For more information, contact 844-3800.

SFU is now encouraging students to apply as early as Nov. 1st. The early admissions/scholarship deadline is Feb. 28th, 2007. If you have applied to UFV (applications opened on Oct. 1st) or SFU you must letmyself or Mr. Moorthy know by February .

Douglas College

Some programs require 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

Fashion Portfolio Exhibit, December 10th 12noon-6pm., Diploma and Degree Information Rotunda at the Richmond Campus www.kwantlen.ca/fashion

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

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

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. The SFU faculty staff, really wants to recruit LFAS students and are specifically coming to talk to grade 11 and 12 January 15th at 1 pm.

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.

Entrance scholarships for UBC, SFU etc

This is not done on a first come first served basis. Please give your name to Mr. Moorthy and Ms. De Little if you wish to be nominated by February 1st 2010. A selection process will then take place by February 14th , 2010.

Ontario universities

Students interested in applying to universities 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

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.

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.