



Elphinstone Secondary School Grade 12 Newsletter

Upcoming Dates

Nov 2 UBC Engineering & Architecture Open House

10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Register online

Nov 2 UBC's Faculty of Land & Food Systems Fall Preview Day

10:00 - 12:30 pm. Register online

Nov 2 Quest University Open House

Squamish. Register online.

Nov 2 Capilano University - IDEA Open Studio Day

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm: feedback on portfolio's, Arbutus Building, Room AR305

Nov 5 Post-Secondary Night with counsellors

For grade 12 students and parents: 6:30 PM in library with counsellors. We will go over tons of information about applying to post-secondary

Nov. 8 shishalh Nation presents: Secondary Students Career Fair.

10:00 am - 2:00 pm; See Mr. Apple for more information

Nov. 11 House of Commons Page Program deadline

Work in the House of Commons. Apply online

Nov 13 Explore Capilano Night

5:30-8:00 PM. Birch Building, North Van

Nov. 13 BCIT BIG INFO SESSION

4:30-7:30 - bcit.ca/biginfo. Burnaby campus

Nov 15 TD Scholarship

Community leadership. Apply online

Nov. 16 National Portfolio Day

11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Hosted by Emily Carr University and held at Kwantlen PTU. RSVP online

Nov 18 Post Secondary Institutions BC (PSI)

Morning at Elphinstone Secondary for Grades 11 and 12

Dec 1 UBC's Centennial Scholars Entrance Award.

For students who qualify academically, but would not be able to attend without significant financial aid

Dec 6 Education and Career Fair

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Vancouver Convention Centre East

Post-Secondary Education

We (the counsellors) will meet with grade 12 parents and students on Tuesday November 5th at 6:30 PM in the library. We will discuss how to apply for post-secondary, application requirements, and financing your post-secondary education (scholarships/bursaries/loans). On November 18th, 13 post-secondary schools will visit Elphi in the morning (8:45-10:45 AM). You will have the opportunity to go to the presentations for two schools of your choice and then visit as many as you like during the mini fair in the gym. You will not miss any class time because classes will be cancelled from 8:45-10:45.

Regardless of where you're thinking of applying, you must go to the website of the PSI (post-secondary institution) and check to ensure you meet the entrance requirements and that you apply before the deadline. Check to be sure you have everything you need, as some programs require letters of intent, portfolios, or reference letters.

Post-Secondary Info Sessions

Many PSIs have information sessions for specific programs. This is the best way to get information right from the people doing the programs. BCIT, Kwantlen Polytechnic, and Cap U all have regular info sessions happening - see their websites for details. For other PSIs, check to see if they have upcoming info sessions you could attend. UBC has online info sessions about different topics, such as applying, financing, and completing your personal profile. Elphinstone's PSI morning is

S. Bruce November 2019



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November 18th (8:45-10:45 AM). You will have the chance to visit with two of twelve schools coming and then attend a mini fair: details to follow.

PSI Open Houses

Most PSIs also have open houses. This is an opportunity for you to browse their programs and visit their campuses. This is a great way to get ideas and get a feel for different PSIs.

Campus Visits & Tours

It's a great idea to visit the campuses of the PSIs you're considering. Even riding your bike around campus gives you the feel for the place. If you can't make an open house, see if you can get a campus tour when you get a chance to visit. Many PSIs will set you up with a tour and often a guide to help you, but contact them before you arrive. UVic offers virtual tours, and some other PSIs may do that, too.

First Nations

If you are First Nations, you may want to consider whether the PSI you are considering has a centre. UBC has a First Nations House of Learning, UVic has a First Peoples House, and SFU has an Indigenous Student Centre. Check out what they offer.

UBC Application Tips

Start Early, Apply to two Programs or both Campuses. Let the Application Guide You (each program may be slightly different, so your application may be different from your friend's), Take Your Time, Check Your Work. Don't leave your application to the last minute. You can save & go back & keep working on your personal profile, but once you submit it, you cannot change it.

Supplemental Applications

When you apply to any program, carefully check to see if you need any other documentation besides the actual application form. Some programs require personal profiles, auditions, portfolios, letters of reference or intent, or even things like

proof of vaccination or first aid courses. Check to see what you need and be mindful of deadlines. Some PSIs help you with admissions checklists, others send you emails or leave you messages within your account or portal.

Applying for Scholarships

When applying for scholarships, include information about awards, scholastic achievement, volunteer work, teams, clubs, hobbies, musical abilities, jobs, work experience, exchanges, evidence of leadership, and other interests or experience.

Volunteering

Volunteering is an important way to gain work experience, see if a career area is right for you, learn organizational skills, and make contacts. When you begin to apply for scholarships, you will want to include examples of how you have contributed to the school and to the community. Offer to volunteer any place that interests you or that does work you admire.

Consider Colleges or Laddering Programs

Colleges often have diploma or certificate programs that can be continued in order to get a degree. Often one or two years, you can then transfer to a university, or move into the work force. Colleges tend to be less expensive, have smaller class sizes, and have professors who are more focussed on teaching than research.