



Purcell Collegiate School

GRATEFUL • MINDFUL • PURPOSEFUL • SUCCESSFUL

purcellcollegiate.ca



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Inclusive



Sustainable



Indigenous



Accessible



International

Purcell Collegiate School:
Five Separate Pillars, One Connected Purpose

Welcome to Purcell Collegiate School

Purcell Collegiate School (PCS) is unique, the only educational opportunity of its kind in North America. The school's partnership with the ʔaq'am Community of the Ktunaxa First Nation distinguishes it as a learning experience for international and Canadian students alike. In addition to core academic courses, PCS will offer specialized elective classes in the areas of sustainability, outdoor education, STEM, business and entrepreneurship, leadership, and fine arts. All aspects of the learning experience at PCS will be informed by and infused with the First Peoples Principles of Learning and Indigenous Ways of Knowing.

As a student attending PCS, you will live in the historic St. Eugene Mission in the ʔaq'am Community and learn in state-of-the-art, post-secondary level facilities at College of the Rockies (COTR) in Cranbrook. That contrasted experience of old and new is representative of PCS's commitment to the "weaving" of traditional knowledge and modern approaches, a paradigm shift being embraced by universities, corporations, and governments worldwide. At the high school level, PCS is leading the way and as a result, our students will be leaders as well—in a new society, a new economy, and a new vision for the future of our planet.

Welcome to PCS: an international school that embraces the need for transformative learning and sustainable thinking; an educational experience that is place-based in nature but global in scope; and a personal opportunity to embrace and realize your potential via a unique, close-knit community experience that nurtures social conscience, fosters thoughtful leadership, and prepares you to engage a life that is grateful, mindful, purposeful, and successful.



Purcell



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Motto & Mission Statement

Our Mission

To inspire, enable and equip students from around the world to explore and realise their potential, developing the knowledge, skills, characteristics and habits that empower growth and prepare individuals to thrive, personally and professionally, in an ever-changing and rapidly shrinking world.

At Purcell We Value: Inclusivity • Creativity • Respect • Responsibility • Sustainability • Happiness • Inquisitiveness • Empathy

Our Campus Locations

Our Campus extends from the City of Kimberley, to include the Indigenous community of ʔaq'am and the City of Cranbrook. Students access resources in all of these areas for their curricular and extra-curricular programs. Students are transported by bus for school events and have other options for transportation such as bikes and walking to nearby amenities. Students study and take classes both at their boarding campus at St. Eugene and at the nearby College of the Rockies. Our partnership with both of these locations allows students to experience first-class indoor resources while providing variety to their learning days and access to amazing outdoor pursuits.



**OVER
20km**
of hiking and
mountain biking
trails

**OVER
300**
Acres of
Outdoors



**OFFERING
Gr. 7-12**
Academic & Extra
Curricular Programs

Welcome message from Chief Joe Pierre

Kiʔsuʔkkyukyt! That means “Welcome” in Ktunaxa, the language of my people, the host First Nation for your stay in Canada.

As Nasuʔkin (Chief) for my community, I am a leader, and it is in that capacity that I am welcoming you today. I’m also recognized in my community and throughout my nation as a storyteller. Our history as a people has been retained and shared orally for millennia; it’s in our stories and so in telling them I’m also an educator. And it’s in that capacity that I have learned this: how we learn can be as important as what we learn. And how you will learn as a student at Purcell Collegiate, living in my community of ʔaq’am, distinguishes the educational experience we are offering from all others in Canada and around the world. Your learning is going to be place-based and experiential; it will incorporate the First Peoples Principles of Learning and explore Indigenous Ways of Knowing; and it will reconnect you with the past to change the way you think about the future.

Welcome to Canada and welcome to beautiful British Columbia. But most importantly, welcome to Ktunaxa ʔamakʔis and the ʔaq’am Community.

See you soon!



Living in the Canadian Rockies

Find out why
you belong at



**Purcell
Collegiate
School**

Small Class Sizes • Supportive Faculty & Staff • Safe, Small, Friendly Community



Amazing scenery right outside the student dormitory awaits you with access to nature at your doorstep.

Supportive school and dorm staff that are here to make your experience a success!

We humbly acknowledge that Purcell Collegiate sits on the traditional, ancestral homeland of the Ktunaxa peoples. Our neighbours, friends, and partners are members of the ʔaq'am Community. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, learn, work and play on this special land for this important purpose of connecting our educational environment to the natural environment. We strive to foster learning and inspire leadership in the Ktunaxa way as keepers of the land and waters.

31,000

Population of Kimberley
-Cranbrook Area (2022)

Being a Student at Purcell

At PCS you are part of a community that is inclusive and welcoming, surrounded by other students and staff who choose to be at our school. In a beautiful mountain setting, you will enjoy friends, mentors and adults who assist you in developing relationships that will last a lifetime and span across the globe because you chose Purcell Collegiate School.



We have an outstanding staff at PCS who care for each student. Our teaching staff is certified to teach curriculum and have experience with international students and are here to help students be successful learners. We provide support to nurture students with a parent's heart at PCS.

Number of
Students

100

co-ed
classes

North American and
International Mix

90%
boarding students

Average
Class Size

20

Staff:Student
Ratio

1:9

Student Life at Purcell

Purcell Collegiate School is an exciting campus inside a special community that celebrates inclusiveness, leadership and service to others. Students learn to become strong young adults in our beautiful mountain setting while being surrounded by caring staff who mentor them and new friends who build lifelong relationships that last well into the future.

Students thrive at PCS in an environment where each student can explore and develop their abilities and talents. Our clubs are diverse and provide opportunities for students to experience culture, art, music, athletics and community interaction.



Clubs and Activities Abound!

These opportunities provide our students with the ability to build skills, identify their passions and become leaders within the school and larger community setting. Combined with building friendships and learning more about Canada, these extra-curricular clubs provide an amazing opportunity for students to connect with others. Students are able to take part in club activities that support their growth and enable them to become global thinkers and communicators.

Learning Life Skills

Our students learn to exemplify service each day through their lives and actions at Purcell Collegiate School. This can be through participating in school chores, volunteering at the campus, tutoring and supporting younger students or working as a volunteer within our local community. Through these experiences our students recognize and learn the importance of giving their time, energy and resources to support those around them.



Discover Dormitory Life

Our boarding environment includes 24/7 support and supervision and time for rest, study, relaxation and enjoyment of the outdoors. We want our students to feel at home and confident during their stay at Purcell Collegiate School. We believe our students should experience friendship, fun and laughter while learning, growing and developing their skills at Purcell Collegiate School. Together we will celebrate many new opportunities and build memories that last a lifetime!

Athletics Programs at Purcell

Students at Purcell Collegiate School are encouraged to develop active and healthy lifestyles. This is accomplished through both our core curricular Physical Education programs as well as extra-curricular athletic programs that take place after regular classes through school sports teams and within the larger community through local teams and leagues. Our program takes pride in developing the athletic abilities of all students while building lasting friendships and team mate relationships all while having fun together with others.



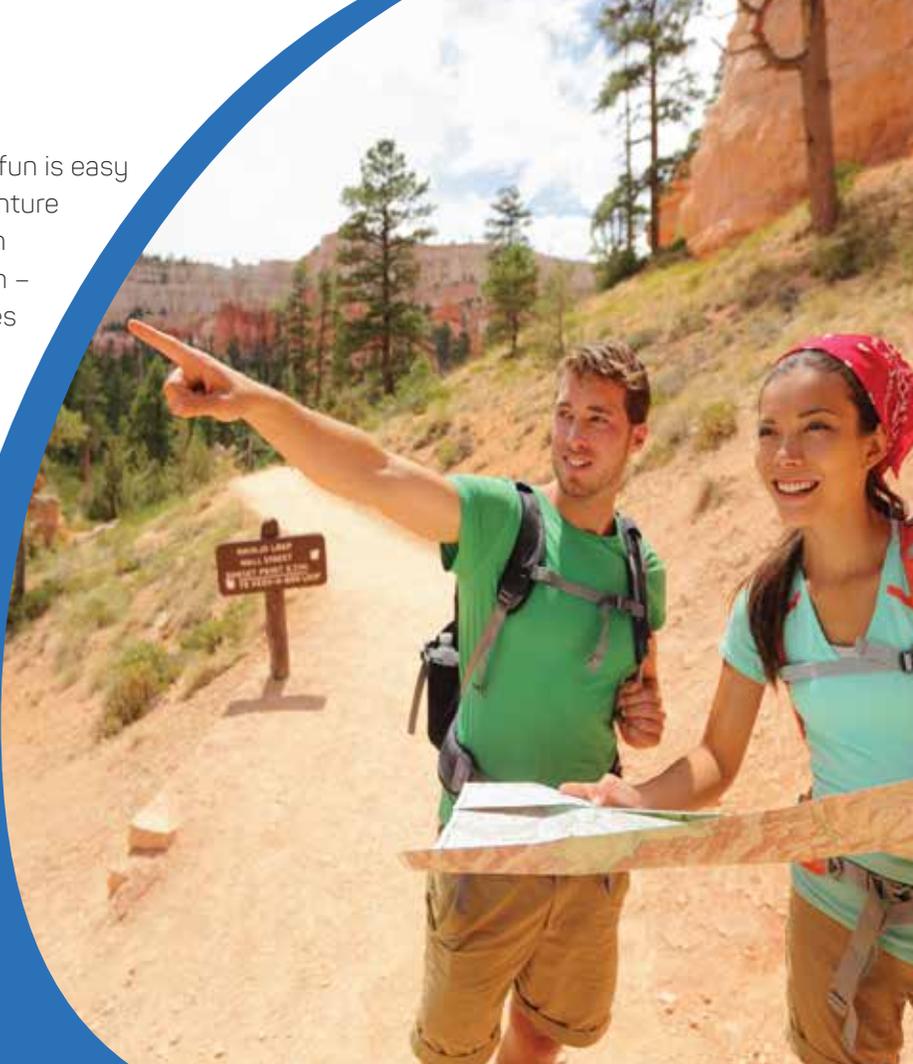
BASKETBALL • HOCKEY • VOLLEYBALL • SOCCER • SKIING • TRACK & MORE

Uniquely Purcell

There are so many unique aspects to PCS. Finding fun is easy at Purcell Collegiate School. Whatever kind of adventure calls you – a trek through lush forest, a walk back in history, an urban excursion, or an artistic immersion – Purcell Collegiate’s location has places and activities to engage and inspire students, year-round.

We believe in **sustainability practices to preserve and respect our world**. With plenty of fresh air and sunshine, students will find endless trails, accessible sports facilities, and parks. We have the largest municipal park in British Columbia, two mountain ranges to choose from, and many surrounding lakes, rivers, and wildlife to enjoy.

Students can golf our campus course, Purcell Golf, ski at the Kimberley Alpine Resort, traverse hundreds of kilometres of forest trails, hike rugged mountain peaks and kayak the freshwater lakes that skirt our community.





We Value Success

Our teaching approach values success balanced with wellness. Our different timetable is designed to provide students to participate in meaningful learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom setting. While academics are at our core at PCS, we also provide choice for students to participate in off-campus programs, community programs, athletics and the arts.

Mornings start later to ensure a proper sleep and include connections with the community and physical activity classes before academics begin in the afternoon. Student experiential activities and field trips occur regularly in our schedule to keep our students actively engaged in learning.

Our ongoing connection with the Indigenous community of ʔaq'am and the Ktunaxa nation provide immeasurable opportunities for students to learn and grow with.



Academic Programs

Our unique approach of blending academic, athletic and community-based programs provide a balance of learning within a background of continuous learning for students. The pursuit of academic excellence is woven into the fabric of how we provide learning opportunities for students at Purcell Collegiate School. We strive to assist students in reaching high levels of achievement while developing skills around leadership and global citizenship. Our program is shaped for the student with innovative teaching methods and enhanced community learning opportunities. Important skills such as collaboration, personal decision making, problem solving, experiential learning and technical acuity for our students are foundational to Purcell Collegiate School.

Students complete core course requirements at each grade level, followed by a choice of elective courses designed to grow their interests and passions. Our staff provide university counselling and act as an advisor to assist students in their journey towards selecting appropriate post-secondary programs.

Purcell Course Outline

The BC Ministry of Education has implemented a concept-based, competency-driven curriculum. The major shift is from a knowledge curriculum to a skill or competency-based curriculum. Flexible learning environments provide students with relevant, engaging and real-life experiences as they learn. Full details on this curriculum can be found at the Ministry of Education website at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

Indigenous culture and perspectives have been infused throughout all areas of learning at PCS. Our course selections for each grade level are shown below.

Grade 7-9

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education
- Art
- Health
- Career Exploration
- Indigenous Studies
- Elective Courses

High School

Skills from Grade 7-9 are foundational for success in high school. Students in Grade 10-12 spend time building core academics while exploring elective classes that fuel their passion for post-secondary and career planning. Academic advisors assist students in charting their plan.

Grade 10

- English Language Arts 10
- Science 10
- Social Studies 10
- Math 10

Grade 11

- English Language Arts 11
- Science 11
- Social Studies 11
- Math 11

Grade 12

- English Language Arts 12
- Science 12
- Social Studies 12
- Math 12

Additional Required Courses in High School taken at any grade level required for graduation include:

Career-Life Education, Career-Life Connections, Physical Education 10, Elective Courses, Indigenous Coursework

Graduation Requirements

Students require a minimum of 80 credits to graduate from Grade 12 with a Dogwood Diploma. Certain course requirements at each grade 10, 11, 12 level are necessary with credits in specific areas. In addition, students must also complete graduation assessments.

Embracing Our Communities

Our location, resting within the traditional ancestral homeland of the Ktunaxa people in the ʔaq'am community. This area provides 300+ days of sunshine a year allowing students to experience the beauty and spirit of Canada. With the Canadian Rockies in our front yard and the Purcell Mountains in our backyard, Kimberley is the perfect starting point for memory-making and adventure-seeking opportunities.

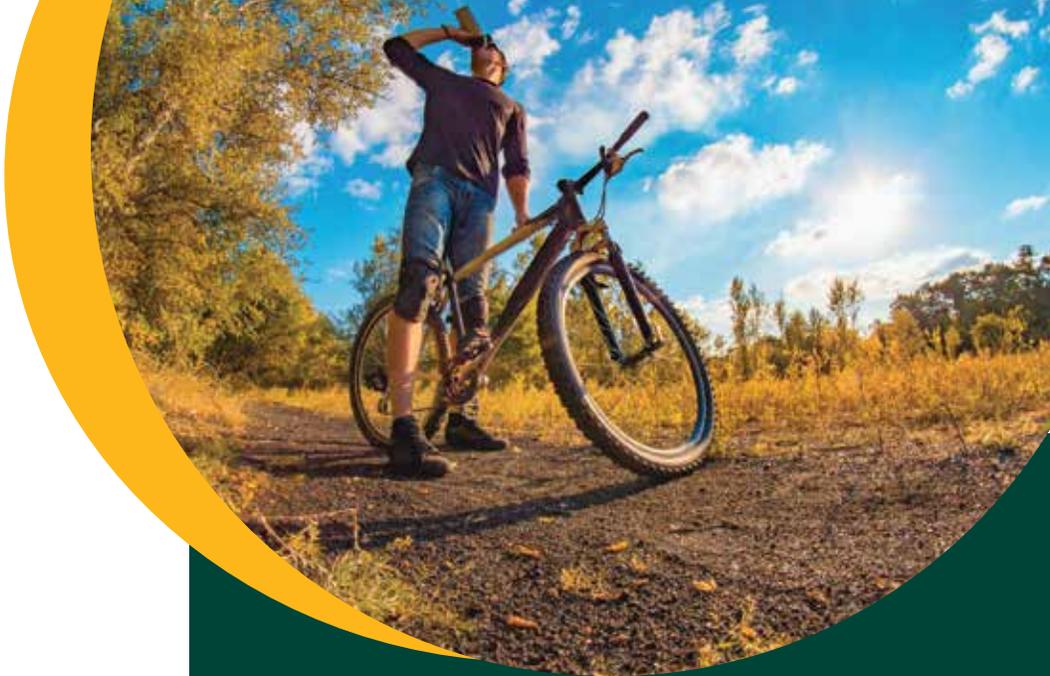
Students from Canada and afar will explore new interests in this awe-inspiring environment, master new skills, and nurture new friendships. Our location lends itself to a wide variety of athletic, artistic and academic opportunities for students.

The Canadian Rockies International Airport (YXC) offers quick flights from many major city centres and is a short 5-minute commute to the campus.



Purcell Perks

While attending PCS, students are encouraged to participate in the Purcell Perks Program. Through their participation, students build up credits to participate in a cultural and recreational experience in Vancouver and Victoria, at no additional charge to them. To earn this opportunity, the program awards credits for students who actively volunteer, participate in school and community sports/activities, and achieve good work habits and grades at school. Students who collect the required number of credits will qualify for the year-end trip and experience more of majestic Canada!



Activity Schedule

Events are carefully planned throughout the school year to ensure a complete cultural and recreational experience is shared by International and Canadian students alike.

Can't Wait to Meet YOU!

Purcell Collegiate School is an exciting campus experience unlike any other in Canada! Join other students from across the globe in learning and growing within a unique program environment filled with life-long memories. Join our amazing community of learners where students pursue academic goals, build life skills and grow to become independent future leaders. We welcome you to apply online today! We have open admission currently for the upcoming school year. To begin your application, please visit our website or reach out to us directly using our contact information. We look forward to seeing you at Purcell Collegiate School!



4 Easy Steps!

1.

Submit
your online
application

2.

Preparing to
submit supporting
documents

3.

Preparing for
your interview

4.

Preparing for
your language
assessment

Admissions Process for Purcell Collegiate School

We encourage you to explore our website to learn more about the Purcell experience.

Once you apply our team members will reach out to each individual applicant to support them through their admission process. Admissions is done in four easy steps!



Top 10 Reasons for Attending Purcell

1. University preparedness
2. Exceptional facilities
3. Student diversity
4. Canadian Friendships
5. World-class staff
6. Leadership Opportunities
7. Community Involvement
8. Student Supports
9. Safety & Well-Being
10. Truth and Reconciliation



Meet the Team



Duncan MacLeod - Head of School

Duncan has over 25 years of experience in the international education sector as a teacher, author, curriculum designer, program coordinator, administrator, and educational leader. Duncan's vision for a paradigm-shifting school purpose-built to change the way education is offered and engaged in BC is the driving force behind the PCS model.



Mark McWhinnie - Principal

Mark has nearly 30 years of educational experience working with students from Pre-K to Grade 12. Mark's experience as an educator and senior leader has included working directly with international students from Asia, Europe and South America. Mark's depth of background brings a wealth of expertise to support students and staff at Purcell Collegiate School.

Having travelled to India, China, Japan, Germany and Spain, Mark has connected with students and agencies to build relationships and connections in order to support students coming to Canada to study and learn. Mark and his family love to travel and enjoy the opportunity to learn from other cultures and world experiences. Mark is excited about welcoming both students and staff to Purcell Collegiate School as we build an incredible experience for students to learn in a transformative and innovate environment.

Meet the Team



Sandy Prentice - Admissions Director

Sandy Prentice began her international education journey as a district principal for the International Program in Nelson, BC, where she served for 21 years. Sandy's experience includes all aspects of an international program which included working with families and global recruitment partners on student recruitment, student engagement and student activities. With Purcell Collegiate School, Sandy works as the Admissions Director focusing on student admissions. Through her time at PCS, Sandy works closely with other team members, parents of students and our global partners in supporting students throughout the application process to welcome them to a world-class experience. Sandy previously taught English in the public schools across BC for many years and is so excited to engage with students from all over the world as she looks forward to learning from them through her interactions.



Lisa Singbeil - Boarding Coordinator

Lisa has over 15 years of involvement with international students. As a host mom, she and her family welcomed students into their home. With Lisa's experience both as a mom and as Homestay Coordinator and Short-Term Program Coordinator, she has developed relationships with hundreds of students from all over the world; some of whom refer to her as their "Canadian mom".

Lisa is also well travelled. When she's not caring for and sharing her love of Canada with students, she loves to travel and explore new cultures. Some of the places she has travelled to include China, India, Thailand, Germany, Mexico, and South Africa. Lisa and her family lived in South Africa from 2000-2004, where her three young boys attended private school, which she feels has led to a broader understanding of the needs of an international student. She looks forward to welcoming students to Purcell Collegiate School; and hopes that you will all feel comfortable, safe, and cared for in your new Canadian home.



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