

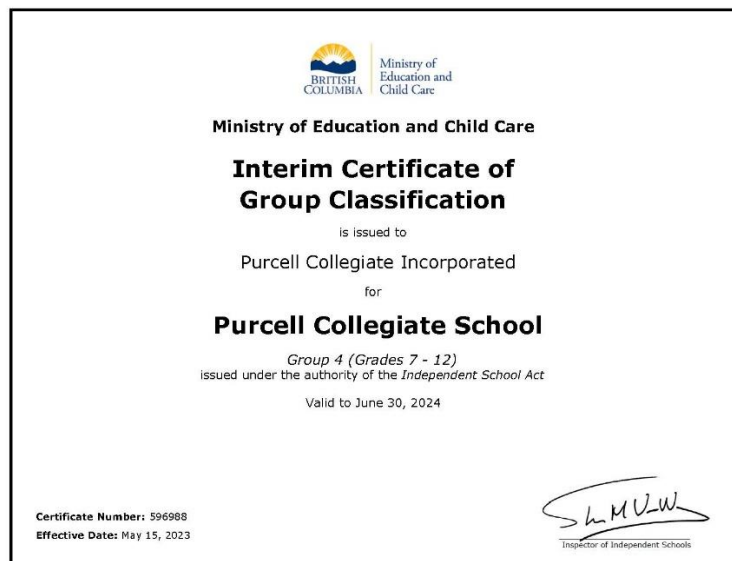
# NEWS RELEASE

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**Purcell  
Collegiate  
School**

On June 5, Purcell Collegiate Incorporated (PCI) held a community engagement event at McKim Theatre in Kimberley, BC to announce that it has received Interim Certification from the British Columbia Ministry of Education and Child Care for Purcell Collegiate School (PCS) to begin operations in September 2023 as a Group 4 (Grades 7 – 12) Independent School.



While PCI remains committed to and engaged in the construction of a brand-new, world-class international boarding school campus in Kimberley, British Columbia, uncertain market conditions are not conducive to proceeding at this time. As a result, PCI is now pursuing the development of Purcell Collegiate in phases, sequenced as follows: 1) opening and beginning operation of PCS in leased space at St. Eugene Mission Resort (SEM) and rented space at College of the Rockies (COTR) in September 2023; building the school's core campus amenities (dormitory, dining hall, gymnasium, classrooms) to commence operations in September 2026; and building the school's various sports academy amenities beginning in April 2030 and becoming operational in September 2031.

Phase 1 of the new plan involves PCS students engaging the majority of their curricular learning under a space usage agreement at COTR, a public post-secondary institution located in Cranbrook. The students will get to and from the college via school bus, a roughly 10-minute trip from where they will be boarding at SEM in the ʔaąam Community. PCS will commence operations with a target school population of 60 students, growing to an enrolment of as many as 140 students during its first three years of operation. This transitional engagement model will allow PCS to enhance, extend, and explore its ground-breaking partnership with the ʔaąam Community. Students will engage in curricular and extra-curricular learning and exchange at SEM and throughout the ʔaąam Community, providing them with the extraordinary opportunity to participate in and contribute to the Truth and Reconciliation process at a grassroots level.

Phase 2 will see the construction of PCS's purpose-built facility at Purcell Golf, home of the Kimberley Golf Club, per its already-approved Development Permit from the City of Kimberley with construction anticipated to commence by April 2024. The school has been designed for and will be equipped to offer the BC curriculum in a state-of-the-art learning environment that includes labs and maker spaces as well as a commercial kitchen and dining hall capable of serving up to 300+ students per day. An on-site childcare facility has also been incorporated into the design and will be open to the community.

Once completed, the PCS main campus will include an academic building, gymnasium, and student housing as well as multi-sport playing courts and various outdoor learning spaces. The adjacent sports academy campus will include a FIFA-sized soccer pitch, 400-metre running track, two-sheet hockey arena, ball diamond, fieldhouse, and sports performance centre. PCS will offer advanced coaching and training opportunities for student athletes in multiple sports academies beginning with hockey and expanding to soccer, golf, and other U Sports/NCAA scholarship-qualifying sports. All aspects of the learning experience at PCS will continue to be informed by and infused with the First Peoples Principles of Learning and Indigenous Ways of Knowing as guided and facilitated by the ʔaąam Community of the Ktunaxa Nation.

PCI intends to incrementally increase the number of students attending Purcell Collegiate using a sustainability-inspired, **trailblazing approach to class scheduling** that will allow the school's population to grow by extending its timetable instead of expanding its facilities. By maximizing the use of its existing amenities, PCS will grow its operational capacity and increase its educational benefit while constraining its carbon footprint. This approach lends itself well to the nature and scope of the school campus we are creating: a sustainable, adaptable learning environment oriented for a fast-moving, ever-changing world. As such, the PCS campus is envisioned to be much more than buildings on land; it will be an integrated learning ecosystem that incorporates the natural local environment and the global geopolitical reality into the education and living experience of each student. The opportunity to learn from the campus amenities, not just in them, is a foundational goal of the project and has been incorporated into the design.

Other key features and attributes include:

- the school is targeting **LEED GOLD** accreditation based on the most applicable LEED rating system version at the time of submitting the application to the Canada Green Building Council;
- the school will incorporate as many sustainability aspects and amenities as possible. Some examples already included in the design include rain-water collection, living walls/roofs, solar energy production capacity, and food-production capabilities (greenhouse, forest farm, apiaries);
- the school is targeting **Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF) Certified Gold** status per the foundation's rating system criteria and toward ensuring the entire campus is as accessible and engageable as possible;
- the school will include a child-care facility as an extension of **Purcell Preschool + Daycare's**

existing operations at our Meadowbrook School campus to provide childcare for Purcell Collegiate staff and the Kimberley community and to provide learning opportunities for Purcell Collegiate students, particularly those interested in careers in education;

- the school will foster inclusivity and acceptance for all students regardless of nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identification, and/or disability and will incorporate design accommodations and enhancements with that in mind;
- the school will encourage and enable healthy living with physical and intellectual outlets and opportunities already included in the design;
- the school will highlight **Ktunaxa language, culture, and history** with design implements and operational participation currently under discussion with ʔaǰam Community representatives;
- the school will provide integrated learning and engagement opportunities for community members including but not limited to after-school clubs and sports open to local public-school students, evening classes for adult community members, and publicly-accessible learning and multipurpose spaces for community activities, events and presentations; and
- the school will foster and support psychological well-being; Purcell Collegiate will be a healthy, productive environment for living and learning.

PCI has chosen to locate Purcell Collegiate School in the Kimberley- ʔaǰam-Cranbrook area for the express purpose of creating benefit for the local communities and looks forward to extending and enhancing the opportunities it will produce to maximize its economic and social impact. With that in mind, PCS's **pioneering engagement model** was designed to support and complement the local public-school system, not compete with it. That's why the only local students who will attend regular classes at PCS will be high-level athletes who would otherwise have to leave the community to attend sports academy programs in larger school districts or distant private schools. PCS will afford these students the opportunity to remain at home and still remain competitive. Local students will otherwise not be permitted to attend PCS ensuring enrollment numbers at Selkirk Secondary School and Mount Baker Secondary School are not negatively impacted. Instead, students enrolled in both local public high schools are invited to participate in the school's suite of **u.prep@pcs** programs, particularly **Club Navigator** and the **Sparx** speaker series. These extra-curricular programs provide PCS and local students with learning and training opportunities usually only found in large metropolitan areas. Other unique PCS programs that foster benefit and/or extend learning include **LeaderSHIFT**, **Carbon Clawback**, **First Person**, **CanXPLR**, and **Purcell Points**.

Purcell Collegiate is not a traditional or conventional "private school." It is a paradigm-shifting Group 4 independent school purpose-built to change the way education is offered and engaged in British Columbia. PCI's landmark **partnership with the ʔaǰam Community** distinguishes the school as a learning opportunity for students and elevates it as a social impact incubator and economic development generator in support of the Truth and Reconciliation process and as a lighthouse project toward a decolonized future.



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