



Georges P. Vanier
Secondary School

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Wednesday, February 12th, 2025
B A D C

Courtenay
British Columbia



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * **Aspire to Action bake sale! TODAY at lunchtime.** Cookies, cupcakes, brownies, cinnamon buns!!! We are raising funds for *The Coldest Night of the Year - a family-friendly fundraising walk in support of local charities. Let's change the tune for people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness... because it's cold out there.*
- * **Any teachers or students interested in Skills Canada Regional Event hosted by NIC Campbell River on Feb 28th** please go to the Comox Valley Schools home page and search skills Canada (or see link below) to see a list of all the available events happening in our area. Skills Canada is an amazing opportunity for students to showcase their talents and skills in a friendly fun manner. Lots of prizes to be won and a great way to discover new skills and opportunities. www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/career-programs/skills-canada-regionals/
- * **This week QSA is hosting a school wide scavenger hunt to spread awareness about the Asexual and Aromantic spectrums** (see room 117 display). Look for photos of Chappel Roan around the school February 10-14. If you find a photo, take it to room 116 to claim a prize!
- * **GRASP Training with the Vancouver Island Crisis Society is taking place at Vanier on February 19 from 9:00 am -3:10 pm.** During this interactive session, we will explore:
 - The mental health spectrum and the impact of mental illness.
 - How our feelings and experiences shape mental well-being.
 - Building empathy for those facing mental health challenges.
 - Strategies to cope effectively.Students will also engage in hands-on activities, including creating personalized Mental Wellness Coping Kits and Plans. This training is especially beneficial for students interested in careers in counselling, psychology, social work, health care, or other helping professions.
To secure your place, please pick up and return the signed form to the counselling office ASAP!
- * **Information meeting for all students interested in Explore 2026 for next year.** Looking for future grade 11 students who are interested in finding out more about the program. At lunch on Thursday, Feb 13th in room 12.
- * **Tickets , get your tickets!**
The tickets sales for Once Upon A Mattress, this year's SD71 musical, will go on sale Wednesday February 12th. Show runs March 4th-March 8th @ 7 pm. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by going to the SD71 website or scanning the QR code on any of the Once Upon A Mattress posters.
Don't miss out on this year's show starring some of the valley's best youth talent!
- * **Cortes Island Academy (CIA) is now accepting applications for our Fall 2025/2026 semester, themed Marine Ecology.** This immersive, place-based program blends science, art, and experiential education, allowing students to earn credits while learning from marine scientists, Indigenous knowledge holders, and thought leaders—all while exploring the stunning coastal ecosystems of the Salish Sea.
Students can earn up to 24 credits in Science, Arts, English, Social Studies, Outdoor Education, and Career Education, all while engaging in real-world projects, field expeditions, and hands-on learning experiences.
Over the past four years, we've welcomed students from across BC, Alberta, and even internationally. We'd love to connect with students from your school who may be interested in this educational experience.
For more details, please visit cortesislandacademy.ca/2025-2026-program/
Applications are now open! Interested students can apply here: cortesislandacademy.ca/register/.
- * **For the rest of February, you can shop for Vanier Hoodies, sweatpants, t-shirts created by True North.** Available until Feb 28th for delivery mid-March. ***NEW OPTION* You can now order specialty spirit wear for Dance, Theatre and Music clubs.** Click on the Athletics/Clubs tab and choose your club with the drop down. Don't miss out!
<https://gpvanier.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

- * **Any grade 11 and 12 students interested in attending NIC (North Island College) Fest** high school-centered campus experience on Thursday Mar 13, 2025 please sign up and pick up a permission form in the Careers office. There are only 21 spaces available. The first 21 students to return their permission form to the Careers office will be guaranteed a space.

NIC Fest high school-centered campus experience schedule:

12:00 pm- Pick up in front of Vanier (Ambassador bus)

12:30 - 1:30 pm-Meet with NIC recruiters for program information and a campus tour

1:30 – 2:30 pm- Free time to check out the Info Fair and talk to NIC staff and faculty from various program and support areas

2:30 pm- Head back to Vanier (Ambassador bus)

CLUBS/MEETINGS/PRACTICES/TRYOUTS TODAY

Group/Activity/Event	Time	Where
Open Gym shootaround	7:00 am	Gym
Indigenous Culture Club	Lunch	Rm 133A
Weightlifting	3:10 pm	Weight room
Jr Boys and Gr 9 Girls Basketball	3:20 pm	Gym
Jr Girls and Gr 9 Boys Basketball	5:00 pm	Gym
Wrestling	3:45 pm	MPR
Sr Girls Basketball	6:20 pm	Gym
Sr Boys Basketball	7:00 pm	Gym

VOLUNTEER/CAREERS

- * **Starting April 2nd Sitka is running a class on Wednesdays at 6pm called A Career In Radio.** Each Wednesday a different professional from the radio business will come and talk to the class about their job, what it took to do that job (training etc...) and run a Q and A. This is to showcase the wide variety of jobs that make up this business. Depending on the outcome, there may be job opportunities at the end. This is open to 17- & 18-year-old students. Anyone interested in engineering, electronics, journalism, and voice. See careers for more information.
- * **Pacific Rim National Park Reserve is seeking independent and highly motivated students to work within a team** of Coastal Stewards in the Resource Conservation department. These stewards will also collaborate with Visitor Experience, Visitor Safety, and other team members, as required for their work. The primary duties are to patrol the coastal areas of the Long Beach Unit to provide prevention and education messaging related to common coastal risk factors to visitors. See the careers office for more information.
- * **MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANT EDUCATION PROGRAM**
Island Health’s Department of Laboratory Medicine, Pathology, and Medical Genetics is offering a fully funded education initiative through Thompson Rivers University (TRU). This program is open to current Island Health employees and external applicants eager to start a rewarding career in Laboratory Services. That's right Fully Funded! That means paid for - Come see us in the Careers Office for more info.
- * **Interested in digital marketing?** Jelly Academy is offering a skills training course, register by Mar 25, 2025, course runs April 1 – June 17, 2025 see the careers office for more information.
- * **The next Foodsafe course will be offered Mar 11, 2025 at Glacier View School.** Forms available in the careers office.

- * **Gr 10-12 students interested in attending the 2025 RCMP Camp are invited to pick up an application in the Career Centre.** The five-day camp takes place May 11-16, 2025 at HMCS Quadra. Students receive four (4) work experience credits for completing the camp.
- * **Fun Volunteer Hours opportunity! The Vancouver Island Biathlon Club is hosting provincials this year at Mount Washington and need volunteer range recorders.** Food/drink provided, and you'll receive a toque for volunteering and draw entries. If interested, contact Jonathan Kerr at vibcprogrammer@gmail.com.
- * **Student helper opportunity:** Starting next Flex Day, we have arranged with our Elementary partner schools to see if any teachers wish a Vanier peer-tutor sent to them as a student helper. If you are interested in this opportunity, see Mrs. Black

BURSARIES / SCHOLARSHIPS

- * **BC School Sports has released this year's scholarship application booklet.** BCSS is offering several scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year to recognize excellence in athletics, leadership, and community service. For detailed criteria and instructions, refer to <https://www.bcschoolsports.ca/news/2024-2025-scholarship-booklet>.
- * **The Registered Nurses Foundation of B.C. (RNFBC) bursaries** are available to students who are entering college or university for nursing education in 2025.
RNFBC has been providing financial assistance to nurses and nursing students for 46 years in our province. In 2024 we were able to disperse 886 bursaries thanks in part to our generous donors and a substantial grant from the Ministry of Health. The majority of the bursaries were for \$1,000.00 each.
For the purposes of the bursary application process, "nurse" is defined as:
 - Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)
 - Nurse Practitioners (NP)
 - Registered Nurses (RN)
 - Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPN)
 The bursary cycle for 2025 will commence on June 16 and run to September 15 and recipients are drawn at random once they meet the criteria. <https://www.rnfb.ca/bursaries-how-to-apply/>
- * **The Vanier Scholarship and Bursary program IS NOW OPEN.** To find more information, copies of the Bursary Booklet and application forms, please visit: <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/gp-vanier-secondary/grad-information/bursary-scholarship-information/>
- * **Attn: Grade 11's: The Horatio Alger Canadian Scholarships and National Entrepreneurial Scholarships for the Class of 2026 is now open.** For more information visit: <https://horatioalger.ca/scholarships-and-services/scholarships/> This association provides 1.8 million annually in need-based scholarship support for deserving students in all Canadian provinces and territories. Deadline is March 31, 2025 at 6 pm.
- * Scholarshipscanada.com is a free website with an extensive scholarship and bursary database. You will be matched to scholarships and bursaries that you are eligible to apply for once you create an account.
- * ScholarTree.ca is a website that helps students find all the scholarships they qualify for within minutes. It's super easy to get started: 1. Create an account at <https://ScholarTree.ca> 2. Fill out your information and get matched to a list of scholarships you're eligible for 3. Start applying.
- * **The Vanier Scholarship, Bursary & Student Loan Newsletter** is available on our school website for grade 12 students who are starting to research ways to pay for their post-secondary education.
<https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/gp-vanier-secondary/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2023/09/Scholarship-and-Bursary-Newsletter-2023-2024.pdf>
- * **The RE/MAX Quest for Excellence® scholarship program is now accepting essay submission until March 9, 2025.** RE/MAX is pleased to offer 40 scholarships of \$1000 each to students across Canada (except for Quebec). To apply, eligible students are invited to write and submit an online essay up to 500 words in length. Essays must be submitted before March 9th, 2025. For essay questions and more information see: <https://blog.remax.ca/quest-for-excellence/>

OLDER NEWS

- * **Schulich Ignite's mission is to ignite a passion for coding in youth** by presenting it to them in a fun and interactive environment. Our team strongly believes in our mission and puts in hard work year-round to provide high-quality programs to our students. Through our workshops, students can explore programming, develop their technical skills and get mentorship from university students. Schulich Ignite also provides students looking to pursue a wide range of degrees with insight into how they may use programming in their future learning. Students can sign up for the program by filling out the registration form with the following link: <https://forms.gle/1CGQ1TnvEa7Jq4ey5>

More details on program dates and times can also be found in the description of the form or on our website, www.schulichignite.com

- * **Flex day / NI Day reminders:** - Please do not go visit other schools on Flex days or Secondary Non-Instructional Days as other schools are in session. You will need to pre-arrange with school staff to visit another school during these days.

- * **The University of Waterloo Mathematics Contests for grades 9 - 11 will take place in B- block on Wednesday February 26, 2025.** A pizza lunch will be provided, and the venue is yet to be determined – Stay tuned!!!

The contests are:

PASCAL (for grade 9 students), CAYLEY (for grade 10 students), and FERMAT (for grade 11 students).

If you are interested in participating, please, register with your math teacher sooner than later. Let's get MATHY!

- * **Come on down to Towhee Treasures (outside rooms 116/117) and enjoy a thrifting experience at Vanier.** Clothing items are free. Donations are welcome. The green donation box is located next to Towhee Treasures. All donations need to be clean and in good condition. Thank you for keeping the area organized. 😊
- * The **Grad Attire program** welcomes all grade 12 students in Comox Valley Schools to have the opportunity to wear a gown or suit on graduation day without the financial burden of purchasing a brand-new outfit for their milestone event.

The Grad Attire program will operate out of Comox Valley Dodge at 278 North Island Highway (Old Canadian Tire building) on the following dates from 10:00am-3:00pm:

- Saturday, February 8th
- Saturday, March 8th
- Saturday, April 12th
- Saturday, May 10th

You can book a fitting appointment using the following [link](https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/grad-attire-program/). <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/grad-attire-program/>

- * **The Vanier late bus runs Mon/Thurs** leaving Vanier at 4:45 pm.
- * **Homework Club** runs Mon/Thurs 3:15 – 4:15 pm weekly.