

## Program Fees

All fees are in Canadian Funds.

a.	Application fee*	\$200.00
b.	Tuition fee**	\$1200.00 per month
c.	Homestay fee	\$800.00 per month
d.	Medical Insurance	\$800.00 per year



Fees are subject to change.

\*Indicates non refundable amount

\*\* Tuition includes all additional course fees, textbook rental, student fees, etc., but does not include fees associated with participation in graduation or school-leaving ceremonies. It also does not include the purchase of supplies which a student might need for a particular course (e.g. sketchbook for Art, a calculator for Mathematics, etc.) or voluntary purchases such as school year books or photos.

### Payment of fees

The student may pay homestay fees directly to the homestay family or remit to the School District #79 office for disbursement.

Other fees may be paid by CHEQUE, BANK DRAFT OR WIRE/ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER.

Bank Draft or cheque **payable to School District #79** and sent to:

District Principal  
International Student Program  
Cowichan Secondary School  
2652 James Street  
Duncan, British Columbia  
V9L 2X2 Canada

Bank details for Wire / Electronic Funds Transfer are available through program staff.

### Refund Policy

Withdraw	Within 60 days of entry into the program	75% refund
	Within 30 days of starting in the program	50% refund
	After 30 days of starting in the program	0% refund

Full refund if the visiting student authorization is not approved by Canadian Immigration and supporting documentation of this rejection is supplied. (student must provide letter of rejection by High Commission)

**NO** refund of tuition fee will be granted if student is in violation of Program Code of Conduct.

### Student Medical Insurance

All residents of British Columbia are required by law to purchase medical insurance under the Medical Services Plan of BC (MSP). School District #79 has a group plan to provide MSP coverage for international students. The School District also provides coverage for the 3-month waiting period required for new residents. The cost for medical insurance is 800.00 per year per student. All students are covered by medical insurance from the day they arrive in Canada.

# Preparing for a year in Canada

## Packing

Students will find that they can purchase most of what they need right in the Cowichan Valley School District. Students may wish to look over the following list and decide which items they will bring from home and which they will purchase in Canada.

- Pictures of your home and family to put up in your room and to show to host families.
- Small items from your home country to use as gifts and to show to Canadian students so that they can learn about your country.
- Favourite music CD's and recreational reading materials in your own language (you can't study all the time!)
- Sports equipment for your favourite sports e.g. badminton racquet, tennis racquet, baseball glove, etc.
- Clothing should include a good all-weather jacket for rain and/or snow, gloves, boots, ski wear, swim-suit and beach towel, casual, easy-care clothes for everyday (there is no school uniform)
- T-shirt, shorts and running shoes for P.E. (Physical Education). This is required in all P.E. classes, so you might want 2 sets so that one can be in the laundry.
- Camera
- Packsack or bag for carrying your books and lunch to school each day and for short trips and excursions.

## Preparing for the Program

Students who come well-prepared adjust more quickly and make better progress when they arrive. Once you are accepted into the program you may wish to make the following preparations:

- Read as much as you can about Canada and British Columbia, particularly Vancouver Island. Look for articles about Canada in newspapers and magazines. Start a scrapbook so that you can begin to build a mental picture of life in Canada.
- Learn the names of the Canadian provinces, the capital city and something about the governments of Canada, so that you can better understand where you are going.
- Try to find someone you can speak English to. The more practice you do before you arrive, the easier it will be. Speak to anyone you know who has been to Canada about what to expect.
- Try to improve your English reading ability. Try to spend some time each day reading English.
- Buy a good quality dictionary or translator. You will need to have it with you every day in school. The better the dictionary, the more useful it will be to you.
- Start vocabulary building: Write down and learn a new word every day. Try to use your new word in a sentence. See how many new words you can learn before you arrive in Canada.
- Think about subjects you will want to study in Canada and buy textbooks on those subjects in your own language. These will help you when you are trying to study them in English.

## Useful and informative websites

[www.sd79.bc.ca](http://www.sd79.bc.ca)

[www.islandschools.ca](http://www.islandschools.ca)

[www.studyinbc.org](http://www.studyinbc.org)

[www.canada.gc.ca](http://www.canada.gc.ca)

[www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca)

[www.islands.bc.ca](http://www.islands.bc.ca)

[www.tourismvictoria.com](http://www.tourismvictoria.com)

[www.hellobc.com](http://www.hellobc.com)

[www.allwords.com](http://www.allwords.com)

[www.cowichannewsleader.com](http://www.cowichannewsleader.com)

[www.cvrld.bc.ca](http://www.cvrld.bc.ca)

[www.city.duncan.bc.ca](http://www.city.duncan.bc.ca)

[www.northcowichan.bc.ca](http://www.northcowichan.bc.ca)

[www.town.lakecowichan.bc.ca](http://www.town.lakecowichan.bc.ca)