



1. It was a happy day for the RC MacDonald School community, as they celebrated the official opening of their new inclusive and accessible playground.

The new play structures at RC MacDonald and Minnekhada Middle School are two of 30 new playgrounds throughout the province that have received funding of \$165,000 as part of the Government of BC's Playground Equipment Program (PEP), which promotes physical activity and healthier lifestyles for students.

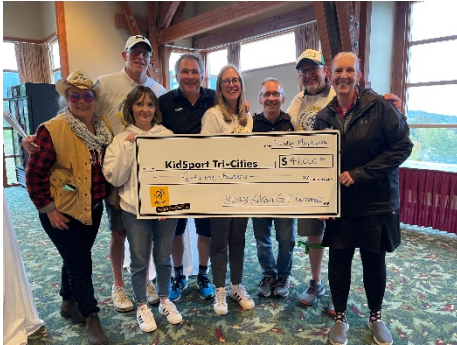
The playground provides the opportunities for students to move around, learn new things, reduce anxiety, improve focus, enhance attention spans, and work on physical, social, emotional, and sensory development.

The well-designed, inclusive playground enables children of all abilities to develop physically, cognitively, socially, and emotionally. A universally accessible and inclusive playground also provides just the right level of challenge to meet kids where they are, addresses all levels of ability, and create play experiences for a variety of needs and interests.

Thank you to the following dignitaries for making this event a successful one!

- Minister of Education and Child Care, Jennifer Whiteside
- MLA (Coquitlam-Maillardville), Selina Robinson
- Board Chair Michael Thomas
- Vice Chair Carol Cahoon
- Trustees, Barb Hobson, Jennifer Blatherwick, and Craig Woods
- Assistant Superintendent Gerald Shong
- Secretary Treasurer Mo Azim
- Executive Director Facilities and Planning Ivano Cecchini
- District Principal of Facilities Devon Ross
- SD43 Maintenance crew
- Brad Neufeld of Habitat Systems Inc.

We are pleased to also share that through the Government of BC's Playground Equipment Program, Meadowbrook Elementary School and Roy Stibbs Elementary School will each be receiving a grant of \$165,000. We are currently in the preliminary planning stages of building these new inclusive and universally accessible playgrounds.



2. School District staff, Coquitlam Principal Vice Principal Association, Coquitlam Teachers Association, & Canadian Union of Public Employees 561, participated in the annual SD43 Golf Classic presented by Polygon on Sunday, May 1, 2022 at the Westwood Plateau Golf and Country Club in Coquitlam in support of KidSport Tri-Cities.

KidSport, is a non-profit organization that raises money to subsidize the registration fees for kids in the community who would otherwise not be able to participate in sports due to financial hardship. Every year the organization helps between 450-550 kids in the Tri-Cities play a season of sport by providing over \$160,000 in registration grants.

Sharon McKay, one of the organizing committee members shares a few words thanking everyone for making it a great event:

“The weather was great, there were many activities on the course, and a lot of laughter between players. The opportunity to get together as a district after a two-year hiatus due to COVID was welcomed. We would like to thank all of our volunteers who made the day run smoothly. Specifically, leadership students from Terry Fox Secondary, Riverside Secondary, and Pinetree Secondary. Westwood Plateau Golf and Country Club hosted the event and provided the venue for a delicious meal and silent auction. The tournament is a fundraiser for KidSport TriCities. We are proud to announce that \$41,000 was raised to help students in our school district play sports both in school and the community. Thank you to all involved. See you next year!”

3. On Friday, May 6th, Gleneagle Secondary School Grade 12 students Adam Crespi, Paul Hong, Yu-Xing Lim, Rachel Son, and Maia Woods will be hosting a full-day Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEAM) convention for the students of Moody Middle School.

The XSTEAMcon Team hopes to ignite curiosity and the spirit of inquiry in the next generation of SD43 students through organizing various workshops provided by STEAM enthusiasts.

This will be also be the first ever STEAM-based event in the district, and one of the first multi-school events since the pandemic lockdown. Congratulations to the ConX Leadership students and their efforts in promoting STEAM education in SD43! [Visit the district SD43 Instagram page for full list of speakers here.](#)





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4. This school year, our students in Grades 4 to 12 participated in the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP).

The winner whose experiment will travel to the International Space Station, together with our two finalists, will be presenting their concept and experiments at an event hosted by SFU Science in collaboration with Science Rendezvous.

The following student shared their experiments at a virtual event Saturday, May 7.

- Marisa and Selina (Hillcrest Middle School)
Growing *Bacillus subtilis* Using Nutrient Agar in Microgravity
- Jisong Han (École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School)
The Effects of Microgravity on the Growth Pattern and Germination of Buckwheat
- J.E. (Jong-eun) Lee and Yong Lee (Port Moody Secondary School) -
Winners
The Changes in Beneficial Metabolites by Lactic Acid Bacteria in Microgravity



5. The Heritage Secondary School Theatre invites you to watch *Chicago - High School Edition* on May 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 at 7:30pm. Book by Fred Ebb & Bob Fosse, Music by John Kander and Lyrics by Fred Ebb. Music editing by Paul Mckibbins, based on the play by Maurine Dallas Watkins and script adaptation by David Thompson.

Tickets are sold on School Cash Online at \$12 for Students/Seniors and \$14 for Adults.

6. Congratulations to Trades student Sarah who represented the School District 43 at the Skills Canada BC 2022 Competition held at Vancouver Community College (VCC). Sarah competed against other Youth Train in Trades (secondary) program students across BC and finished third place in the Auto Collision and Refinish category.



[Read more at the Career and Trades May newsletter here.](#)

7. SD43 families are invited to register for Summer Learning classes for students currently in Kindergarten.

Registration opens online for the following levels:

- Elementary: Open May 3
- Middle & Secondary Skill Building: Open May 6
- Secondary Full Credit: Open May 11



The Summer Learning Program is also pleased to offer 30 volunteer opportunities once again for students to gain valuable experience in the classroom. Successful volunteers will be placed in local classrooms and earn necessary volunteer hours as well as a letter for reference. For more info, visit www.sd43summerlearning.ca



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8. On May 9th, SD43 students in grades 9-12 who identify as females were invited to attend the second "Virtual Meet and Greet" of the year hosted by the SD43 Career and Trades Program together with the BC Women In Trades Training.

Students had the opportunity to hear from and interview female tradespeople about their jobs and experiences as well as meet with other students who are currently enrolled in the trades programs.



Women in Trades Virtual Meet & Greet

Are you a female high school student in British Columbia, and interested in construction, maintenance, or industrial trades?

Are you a teacher, support staff, counsellor, trustee, or administrator in a BC school district, and want to help students learn about skilled trades careers?

Hosted by SD43 and the BC Centre for Women in the Trades, these TWO free virtual sessions are all about helping female students THRIVE in their skilled trades education! PLUS, there will be door prize at both events!

Limited space, register now: <https://tinyurl.com/May2022WITMeet>

Session for School District Staff MONDAY, May 2, 2022 6:30-8:00 PM PDT Learn how to be an ally and advocate for female trades students Share best practices with other school staff from around BC	Session for Female Students MONDAY, May 9, 2022 6:30-8:00 PM PDT Meet real tradeswomen and hear them talk about their jobs Connect with other students interested in trades programs
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9. Congratulations to the following students for completing the Work in Trades Program. Each of the students will be receiving a \$1000 award for working a paid job in Trades while in high school. Well done students!

10. On May 4th, Coquitlam Continuing Education hosted a reception to celebrate its 50 year anniversary at the Montgomery Centre from 5:00 -7:30 pm.

District Principal Michael McGlenen kicked off the event by introducing the following esteemed guests: Board Chair, Michael Thomas, Vice- Chair Carol Cahoon, Trustees Jennifer Blatherwick, Christine Pollock, Craig Woods and Lisa Park and the Assistant Superintendents, Dr. Carey Chute, Gerald Shong, Executive Director of HR Randy Manhas and Secretary Treasurer Mo Azim.

Mr. McGlenen then shared a fond memory of his time as a leader, discussed the evolution of each program and thanked each administrator, teacher, and staff person that has helped build the adult education program become what it is today.



WORK IN TRADES award winners

Congratulations to the following students for completing the WORK in Trades Program. The following students from School District 43 will receive a \$1000 award for working a paid job in Trades while in high school.

 Remo Plumbing	 Carson Plumbing	 Trevor Electrical	 Alice Auto Service Technician	 Ethan Electrician	 Olivier Millwright
 Ethan Professional Cook	 Georgio Plumbing	 Cam Mechanic	 Connor Plumbing	 Duncan Electrical	

A former student of Literacy Foundations, one of the programs that offers English instruction to new immigrants, also shared how fearful he was of the learning the English language but also how he was very thankful for the instruction, perseverance and confidence given to him by his teacher.

A display of class materials, brochures and memorabilia were also shared at the event entrance.

Mr. McGlenen ended the night sharing, "We now celebrate fifty years in adult education. We've made it to fifty years because we continue to strive to meet the diverse needs of our students. We transform alongside our students."





11. On the week of May 2nd-9th, École Dr. Charles Best Secondary Social Justice students displayed red dresses in front of the school to help raise awareness and honour the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIW) and two spirit people.

The Red Dress Project began as a commemorative installation project by Métis artist Jamie Black in response to the critical national issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The project has been installed in public places throughout Canada and the United States and has since evolved into a national movement.

On May 5th, École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School invited the Kwikwetlem First Nation for a drum procession and shared informational biographies on the dresses and dress posters.

[Watch the Global News feature on École Charles Best Secondary School here.](#)

12. Rachel Smith, Heritage Woods Secondary School student, is spearheading the 11th annual Moose Hide Campaign Day, a movement where Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys stand up against violence towards women and children, at school on May 12th.

The inspiration of the Moose Hide Campaign came to the founders Paul Lacerte and his daughter Raven during a moose hunting trip along Highway 16 (The "Highway of Tears") in northern B.C., where many women have been murdered or gone missing.



Rachel has started sharing information about the campaign with her peers during the school's grade assemblies and will be providing all teachers with information to take back to their students and pins to be distributed for May 12th.

Wearing a moose hide pin and taking part during this day demonstrates the commitment in giving women and children the respect, safety, and security they deserve.



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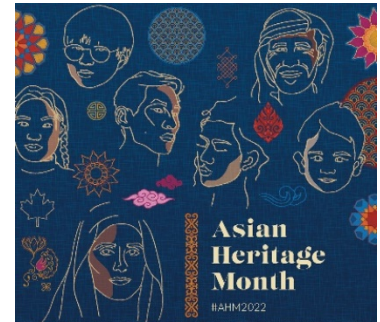
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13. May is Asian Heritage Month, a month dedicated to recognizing the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian Heritage.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the official declaration of May as Asian Heritage Month in Canada celebrating the theme of "Continuing a Legacy of Greatness".

The month is also an opportunity to learn more about the history of Canadians of Asian heritage and to also come together to combat anti-Asian racism and all forms of discrimination.



Canada

Upcoming Events - SD43 Commencement Ceremony Schedule 2022

SCHOOL	COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY DATE/LOCATION/TIME
Centennial Secondary School	Wednesday, June 15, 2022 Orpheum Theatre
Dr. Charles Best Secondary School	Wednesday, June 22, 2022 Simon Fraser University (SFU)
Gleneagle Secondary School	Wednesday, June 1, 2022 7:00 pm Orpheum Theatre
Heritage Woods Secondary School	Saturday, June 18, 2022 2:00 – 5:00 pm Simon Fraser University (SFU)
Pinetree Secondary School	Wednesday, June 22, 2022 7:00 pm Orpheum Theatre
Port Moody Secondary School	Saturday, June 25, 2022 11:00 am Orpheum Theatre
Riverside Secondary School	Sunday, June 26, 2022 11:00 am Simon Fraser University (SFU)
Terry Fox Secondary School	Saturday, June 25, 2022 Simon Fraser University (SFU) 1:00 pm
Indigenous Education	June 6-8, 2022 Millside Educational Centre
Customized Learning Centre (CLC)	Tuesday, June 21, 2022 6:30 pm Montgomery Centre
Continuing Education (CE) & CLOC	Wednesday, June 22, 2022 6:30 pm Montgomery Centre
Coquitlam Alternate Basic Education (CABE)	Friday, June 24, 2022 10:30 am – 4:00 pm CABE (1 family per 30-minute time slot)



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Inquiry Hub	Date TBD Inlet Centre or Inquiry Hub (TBD)
Suwa'lkh	Tuesday, June 28, 2022 1:00 pm Millside Educational Centre
Encompass/Apex	Wednesday, June 22, 2022 4:00 pm Vanier Center Gym