



Pinetree Secondary School

THE HOWL

Day 2 - Thursday, December 18, 2025

Block	Times
1	7:45 am - 9:00 am
2	9:05 am - 10:13 am
ESS	10:18 am - 11:06 am
3	11:11 am - 12:19 pm
Lunch	12:19 pm - 12:59 pm
4	12:59 pm - 2:07 pm
5	2:12 pm - 3:20 pm

CAFETERIA

Today Thursday Dec 18th		Tomorrow Friday Dec 19th	
Poutine	\$6.25	Cheese Pizza	\$7.25
Chicken Stir Fry	\$7.00	Coleslaw Fish Burger	\$6.25
Soft Beef Taco	\$6.95	Chicken Quesadilla	\$7.00
Cajun Sausage Pasta Alfredo	\$6.50	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce	\$6.25

NEW News

Spirit Week – Christmas Spirit Day and Talent Show at Lunch!

Treehouse Theatre Presents:

Guys & Dolls



Click here for more information and to purchase tickets:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/pinetree/layouts/15/download.aspx?SourceUrl=/school%2fpinetree%2fPublications%2fGuys+and+Dolls+Ticket+Sales+Poster.pdf>

The Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarships

Value: 20 @ \$5,000

Deadline to apply: Feb. 17, 2026 at 3pm.

This scholarship is awarded to 20 outstanding high school graduates who have demonstrated a commitment to and aptitude for a career in K–12 teaching.

For more information and application: [Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship - Province of British Columbia](#)

Jonah Christensen Memorial Scholarship

Value: \$2,000

Deadline to apply: March 31, 2026.

Criteria: Must be a graduating student intending on pursuing post-secondary in the upcoming graduating year and post-secondary must be a registered charity:

[List of charities and certain other qualified donees - basic search](#)

Requirement: Must show where you would like to be in 10 years through a visual presentation. This can include anything, a painting, a song, a sculpture, an interpretive dance, whatever represents your goals. Submit application as either a photo of your work and a 300 max. explanation or a maximum 1-minute video.

For more information on application format: [Jonah Christensen Memorial Scholarship – Celebrate the Child](#)

Ongoing Items

GRAD 2026

Grad Channel

Grads – don't miss out on important Grad information Sign up for the Grad 2026 channel on the My School Day App. If asked for a password enter: pinetree. Any issues, see Mrs. Gushta in the office.

SCHOOL NEWS

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found will be available in the Foyer this week. Any unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the week.

THE MEZZANINE

ATTENTION Students! The mezzanine (area above the cafeteria) will be closed from now until the end of January due to set up for the upcoming musical, "Guys and Dolls". When the musical is over and the area is cleared, it will be open to students during lunch again.

CLOTHES DONATIONS

The KEY Club and the Hope Club are joining forces to help make a difference during the cold winter season by organizing our annual Winter Clothing Drive taking place from **December 15th to 19th**. This initiative will support the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre in Vancouver, an organization that provides essential services, food, and clothing to women and children who are homeless and in need.

Donations of clothes that have been gently worn will be accepted. Please refrain from donating dirty or damaged clothing. Donations can be dropped off every day at lunchtime in the foyer.

Accepted items include jackets, sweaters, hoodies, scarves, gloves, socks, and pants. Key Club/Hope Club volunteers will be present throughout the week to collect and organize all contributions.

Winter Break

Winter Break is coming up. Last day of classes is this **FRIDAY** and the first day of classes after the break is January 5th.

The Tri-Cities Enchantment Project – Dress & Suit Donations Request

The Enchantment Project was created to ensure all our young people can attend their high school graduation celebrations. Your donations of modern and stylish grad dresses and suits are vital to the continuation of this project. Grad dresses and suits can be donated at Terry Fox, Riverside, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods and CAFE. Donations will be accepted from January to March 2026. Please email Erin with any questions – ewatkins@sd43.bc.ca.

Student IDs

Student IDs have arrived at the school. If you have received an email that it is in the office, please come and pick it up.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Lights at Lafarge

The Lights are now on across the street. There will be food trucks and different activities during the Holiday season. Check out [Lights at Lafarge | Coquitlam, BC](#) for all of the details.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer at the Art Gallery at Evergreen!

Open to Pinetree Secondary School Students.

- Opportunities available for ages 16+
- Build customer service skills
- Boost your resume

- Gain volunteer hours
- Expand your creative network

To learn more about the role, perks, and qualifications to apply.

Application deadline is January 14, 2026.

Visit: [MyImpactPage - ECC Youth Volunteer Application Form](#)

Volunteer as a Snow Angel

Volunteer as a Coquitlam Snow Angel and Share the Warmth This Winter. When the snow falls, a little kindness goes a long way. Help your neighbours – and keep the community safe – by volunteering as a Coquitlam Snow Angel. We're looking for helping hands to clear sidewalks after a snowfall. Volunteers 16 and older (or younger with an adult) receive a cozy winter kit with a shovel, toque, scarf, ice cleats, and mitts.

Sign up on your own, with friends or with your family – and make someone's day brighter. Snow Angels Volunteering also counts toward volunteer hours for graduation requirements.

Learn more and sign up to volunteer at <https://www.coquitlam.ca/363/Snow-Angels>.

Vancouver Children's Festival Volunteer Opportunity

The festival takes place May 25-May 31, 2026 on Granville Island.

Students must be:

- 15 years or older at their first shift
- Able to attend 2 shifts (~14 hours) minimum
- Access to a working email and phone

Any volunteer who completes over 24 hrs of service will be eligible for a reference letter from the Volunteer Team including plenty of other perks. **If you are interested in any of the following fill out the volunteer form at the link below.**

The application will close in early May.

- Hospitality and Customer Service
- Tourism and Event Management
- Visual and Performing Arts
- Early Childhood Education
- Work Experience requirements

If you would like to become a school recruiter at Pinetree (3-4 volunteers needed for this), email Ms. Moorhouse and also fill out an application at the link below. Volunteer Recruiters get to partake in virtual monthly meetings from February to May, receiving ongoing support and mentorship from the team.

Application form and more info: [MyImpactPage - Application Form - Vancouver International Children's Festival](#)

The coordinator of the program will reach out to applicants in January 2026.

SCHOLARSHIPS/BURSARIES & FINANCIAL AID

Coquitlam Foundation Scholarships

Eligibility:

- General eligibility requirements require applicants to:
- Demonstrate financial need
- Demonstrate a history of school and community service and leadership OR school and community involvement
- Demonstrate academic success sufficient to enter into post-secondary studies
- Begin designated studies within three years of formal notification of awarded bursary/scholarship
- Submit a written report upon completion of the applicable term of studies

Applicants should also review the [specific eligibility criteria](#) of each fund before applying.

For more information and to apply: [Scholarships and Bursaries | Coquitlam Foundation - Invest . Enrich . Inspire](#)

DEADLINE: Tuesday, March 31, 2025, at 11:00pm (PST).

Optimist International Essay Contest

Value: \$2,500 scholarship and/or a smaller cash prize.

You must be under the age of 19. There is no minimum age.

Deadline to submit essay is **January 31, 2026**.

Essay contest application: [2025-26 Essay Application](#)

Submit application and essay to ccena@shaw.ca

For more info: [Coquitlam Optimist Club: Scholarship Opportunities](#)

BC Excellence Scholarships – Nomination Process

Value: 55 @ \$5,000

Pinetree can nominate one student. You must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

To be considered for nomination, submit a Pinetree Brag Sheet no later than Friday, Jan. 9, 2026 to Mr. Nelson at kenelson@sd43.bc.ca

 [Pinetree Brag Sheet.pdf](#)

The B.C. Excellence scholarship is awarded to 55 high school graduates who have demonstrated service and leadership, both at school and in their communities, and who show aptitude for and commitment to their chosen career or area of post-secondary study.

Eligibility requirements:

Students selected as conditional recipients of the B.C. Excellence scholarship must meet the following requirements **by August 31** of their graduating year to be confirmed as a recipient and receive their scholarship voucher:

- [meet core eligibility requirements](#);
- be eligible for a B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma);
- fulfill the [requirements of the B.C. Graduation Program](#); and,
- have the following final marks.
 - Minimum “B” average in grades 11 and 12 courses required for graduation
 - Minimum "B" (73% or above) in Language Arts 12
 - Minimum “B” average, no more than one "C+" (67% or above), and no marks lower than “C+” in courses that fulfill graduation requirements for Science 11 or 12, Math 11, and Social Studies 11 or 12

Note: students may apply for both the B.C. Excellence scholarship and the [Pathway to Teacher Education scholarship](#) but they can only be awarded one. For more info about the application for nominated students, see following link: [BC Excellence Scholarship - Province of British Columbia](#)

Western University National Scholarship Program – Nomination Process

Value: \$2,500-\$100,000

Pinetree Secondary School can nominate up to 4 students and 1 additional international student.

Eligibility: With the exception of the International President’s Entrance Scholarships and the President’s Entrance Scholarship. For Black Students, National Scholarship applicants must be Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada. All applicants must have obtained a minimum overall average of 90% on all Grade 12 courses. National Scholarships are available only at Western’s main campus, and Faculty Entrance Scholarships are available only within the faculty] for which the scholarship has been awarded. See link for additional eligibility requirements and other information:

[National Scholarship Program - Office of the Registrar - Western University](#)

To be considered for nomination, **you must submit a completed Pinetree Brag Sheet no later than Friday, Jan. 9, 2026 to Mr. Nelson kenelson@sd43.bc.ca.**

 [Pinetree Brag Sheet.pdf](#)

Schulich Leader Scholarships – Nomination Process

Value: 50 @ \$120,000 for engineering scholarships / 50 @ \$100,000 for science & math scholarships

Pinetree Secondary School can nominate one student.

To be considered for nomination, submit a completed Schulich BRAG SHEET no later than **Friday, Jan. 9, 2026 to Mr. Nelson at kenelson@sd43.bc.ca.**

 [Schulich Brag Sheet Fillable Form.pdf](#)

Criteria:

- Must be a Canadian citizen. A permanent resident cannot apply.
- Plan to enroll in an eligible STEM program at one of the listed partner universities.
- Be entrepreneurial-minded and plan to enroll in an eligible STEM program at one of their partner universities listed at the link below.
- Must meet the following criteria: Academic excellence AND leadership, charisma and creativity.
- Strong consideration will be given to students with financial need.
- Must be entrepreneurial minded and intend to pursue a career in one of the following areas: technology, engineering, entrepreneurship, and business enterprise, or applied scientific research.

Not considering students who:

- Focus on activism (environmental/political/societal).
- Planning a career as a physician and/or medical researcher. This includes doctor, dentist, nurse, psychologist, pharmacist, optometrist, etc.
- Intend on becoming a professor and conduct theoretical research.

Must be pursuing a degree at one of the following partner universities/programs: <https://www.schulichleaders.com/universities>

For more info about the scholarship: [Schulich Leader Scholarships](#)

Cmolik Foundation Scholarships – Nomination Process

Value: \$40,000 (for tuition, books, living expenses, mentorship, workshops and more)

Students who fit the criteria and would like to be considered for nomination can email a completed Cmolik fillable BRAG SHEET no later than Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, to Mr. Nelson at kenelson@sd43.bc.ca

 [Cmolik Brag Sheet Fillable Form.pdf](#)

Criteria:

- Must be a BC resident
- Have lived in Canada for a minimum of 7 years
- Plan to graduate from a BC secondary school
- Plan to attend and study full time at a university, college, or trade school
- Be ineligible for the BC Tuition Waiver Program (for former youth in care)
- Have experienced adversity or hardship
- Have exhibited a good work ethic
- Have demonstrated financial need
- Evidence of leadership involvement

For more info: <https://www.thecmolikfoundation.com/>

SFU Uggla Family Scholarship for Domestic Students - Aprox. \$140,000 Value

Criteria and Eligibility:

- Domestic (Canadian) student admitted to fall term to any undergraduate degree
- Student must be facing significant financial barriers to participate in post-secondary
- May include students who identify as Indigenous, Black, or person of colour, students living with disabilities, LGBTQIA2S+ students, and students of all gender identities.
- The award recognizes outstanding students who demonstrate leadership, community engagement, and resilience while facing financial barriers.

The intent of this scholarship is to promote equity and remove historical and existing discrimination, including barriers to full participation in social, cultural, economic, and political life.

10 awards covering: All tuition & fees, on-campus housing/meal plan, textbooks, other materials and more...

Deadline to apply is Jan. 19, 2026.

For more info and to apply: [Uggla Family Scholarship - Undergraduate Admission - Simon Fraser University](#)

Soroptimist International of the Tri Cities Bea Kelly Volunteer Award

Value: \$1,500

If you are a grade 12 female student who volunteers in your community or school, you may be eligible for this award. This grant acknowledges young women in Grade 12 who demonstrate that they make a difference in their community and/or school. Preference goes to young women in the Tri-Cities, BC.

Visit: <https://soroptimisttricitie.org/our-programs/live-your-dream-awards-programs/>

Application form: [bk-award-application-writeable-2023d-1.pdf](#)

Deadline to apply is January 15, 2026.

Soroptimist International of the Tri Cities Spread Your Wings Award

Value: \$1,500

This award is meant to support female immigrants or refugees who are planning to attend a vocational/skills Training Program or undergraduate degree program.

Visit: [Live Your Dream Awards - Soroptimist International of TriCities](#)

Application: [spread-your-wings-award-2024b.pdf](#)

Reference Form: [spreadherwings-referencev2.pdf](#)

Deadline to apply is January 15, 2026.

POST SECONDARY & CAREERS

SFU Bright Futures: Energy Changemakers Youth Program

This 3-day youth program runs between January and March, designed for young women and gender-diverse students aged 14-18 in Metro Vancouver. The program includes two online workshops focused on clean energy and sustainability topics, followed by one in-person case competition where students collaborate, think creatively, and propose innovative energy solutions.

Participants in the case competition will have the chance to win up to \$300 in prizes.

Interested students are invited to fill out a short interest form ([link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached flyer).

U of Alberta Getaway for Grade 11 Students

This opportunity will take place at the U of A [Augustana Campus](#) in Camrose. This adventure will include transportation reimbursement*, accommodations, Meals and a jam-packed schedule of events. Attendees will become familiar with the campus, learn about their programs, experience what sets U of A students life apart and meet other amazing students from all across Canada. Plus, you'll get a taste of the city surrounding the campus.

When: May 22-24, 2026

Where: University of Alberta, Camrose, AB

Who: 20 Grade 11 Students from Across Canada

Students must apply on the [U of A Getaway web page](#) by January 31, 2026.

*Up to a maximum based on location.

Career & Trades Program SD 43

SD43 Trades Programs Open House on Wed., Jan. 14 at 6pm at Terry Fox Secondary School.

All grade 10 & 11 students are invited to find out more about trades programs offered by SD43 in your grade 12 year. No registration is required to attend. [Career & Trades Programs - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\)](#)

UBC Faculty of Forestry

The UBC Faculty of Forestry is offering monthly information sessions for high school students who are curious about the environment, sustainability, and the great outdoors on the following dates. Participants will hear directly from undergraduate advisors and have the chance to ask questions in an open, and welcoming setting.

Upcoming sessions:

- January 13
- February 12
- March 12 (featuring a student panel)

Students can [register here](#).

UBC Black Futures

The Black Futures program is a unique opportunity for Gr. 11 and 12 Black students from across Greater Vancouver to be introduced to post-secondary options and discussions about higher education. Last year's program was hugely successful, and we anticipate that this year will be too. With a slogan of "if you can see it, you can be it", it allows students to envision their academic future. Students DO NOT need to be planning on attending UBC to be a part of this program.

The program consists of four in-person meetings at UBC. High school students will meet with UBC students, as well as a variety of faculty and other professionals. There is no cost for students to attend. Transportation to and from UBC will be provided and students will be chaperoned by SD43 teachers. If you are interested, please see Ms. Moorhouse in counselling by **December 18th**, so that your name can be added to the list—there are only 10 spots available, so don't wait!

New Westminster Student Police Academy

If you are a student in grade 10, 11 or 12 and are between the ages of 16-18 and have a desire to learn about a career in policing, you are invited to apply for a week-long experience in law enforcement (March 16- 20, 2026). You must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

For more info and to apply: [Student Police Academy - New Westminster Police Department](#)

Deadline to apply is Jan. 7, 2026

Certificate in Essential Technical Skills for Architecture, Construction & Engineering ("ACE Certificate") – for Graduating Students

The ACE Certificate is a 14-month career exploration program, running from July 2026-August 2027.

The funded ACE Summer Intensive classes are held at the BCIT Burnaby Campus. Students must

Complete all three courses to continue to the second segment of the program that will run

from Sept. 7, 2026 to Aug. 27, 2027. It includes two practicums and 5 online courses.

There are limited seats for this paid internship.

See Ms. Moorhouse in counselling for an application package and more information.

Apply between NOW and Feb. 28, 2026.

Follow Pinetree on Instagram for more updates from your Pinetree Secondary Community:

<https://www.instagram.com/pinetreesecondary/?hl=en>