

# STORIES OF VANCOUVER 2010



English Immersion & Cultural Exploration Program

Presented by

**PUI YING COLLEGE**

Operated by Pui Ying Christian Services Society  
a registered non-profit organization in Canada  
[www.puiying.org](http://www.puiying.org)

**中華基督教香港區會**

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF  
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CHINA

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Stories of Vancouver is a three-week youth program that aims to provide a safe and fostering environment for students to explore a different cultural setting. In which they strengthen their English skills.

This program is designed to provide a holistic language learning environment and a Canadian lifestyle experience for students aged from 13 to 17. Students will improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through practicing day-to-day English conversations. Every week, Stories of Vancouver focuses on a different theme to highlight some of the unique features of the beautiful country, Canada. The program consists three main components: English lessons, excursions and homestay experiences.



## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Improvement of pronunciation and expanded vocabulary for effective oral communication
- Development of creative, analytical, and reflective thinking
- Gain of fluency and confidence in speaking and listening skills
- Building of teamwork, leadership, and organizational skills
- Development of a broadened worldview and understanding of global issues





## ABOUT Us

We are a non-profit organization that has been serving the community for 17 years since our establishment in 1992. Over the years, we have been actively providing services to children, youths, adults and seniors.

Some of our programs include:

- Language Courses  
Chinese Schools, Mandarin/Cantonese Lessons,  
ESL Classes, iBT TOEFL Preparation
- Computer Courses  
Computer & Business Application  
Tutorials, Multimedia Seminars
- Cultural Exploration and Leadership Programs  
Overseas Study Tours, Canadian  
Student Ambassadors, Character  
Building and Leadership Camps



## ABOUT OUR STAFF

All instructors are qualified professionals with BC Teaching Certificates or TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) Certificates. They are fun and friendly and very experienced in teaching culturally diverse international students. Also, trained in standardized first-aid and emergency procedures, our enthusiastic program staff will be ready to give advice and support to all students.

## THEMES

Each week is enriched with a unique theme encompassing the lifestyle and culture of Vancouver. In addition to improving English skills, students will develop an increased awareness of cultural diversity and Canadian history, roles of the government and laws, and issues affecting our global community.

Week 1	First Nations Studies and the Environment
Week 2	Government, Heritage and Multiculturalism
Week 3	Sports and Heroes

## CURRICULUM

TIME	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WEEK 1</b>							
9 AM ~ 12 PM	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY	INTRODUCTION TO CANADA	ENGLISH CLASS	LYNN CANYON HIKE & ECOLOGY CENTRE	ENGLISH CLASS	ENGLISH CLASS	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY
1 PM ~ 5 PM		UBC WALK	MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY		JERICO BEACH	GRANVILLE ISLAND	
EVENING	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY						
<b>WEEK 2</b>							
9 AM ~ 12 PM	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY	ENGLISH CLASS	DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER & CENTRAL LIBRARY	ENGLISH CLASS	VICTORIA	ART GALLERIES	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY
1 PM ~ 5 PM	CHURCH VISIT (OPTIONAL)	STANLEY PARK & SEAWALL		POLICE MUSEUM		ARTS & CRAFTS CLASS	
EVENING	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY						
<b>WEEK 3</b>							
9 AM ~ 12 PM	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY	ENGLISH CLASS	GROUSE MOUNTAIN	ENGLISH CLASS	ENGLISH CLASS	GRADUATION CEREMONY	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY
1 PM ~ 5 PM		MULTIMEDIA WORKSHOP		SPORTS DAY AT OLYMPIC OVAL	MULTIMEDIA WORKSHOP	FAREWELL PARTY	
EVENING	FREE TIME WITH HOST FAMILY						

\* Pui Ying College reserves the right to make changes to scheduled activities due to availability and weather conditions.

# CLASSROOM SETTINGS

In a Canadian style classroom setting, our friendly and enthusiastic instructors and classroom helpers will teach students English skills and provide ample opportunities for them to interact with each other to practice the English language. Because we implement small-class teaching, instructors and helpers are able to provide each individual with sufficient attention and assistance.

Students are always excited to go on excursions and the language skills and knowledge acquired in class make these excursions much more meaningful and interesting. Some of the favorite excursions include visiting Victoria, Grouse Mountain and Granville Island. In addition to excursions, they also enjoy team-building activities such as working together in scavenger hunts, playing Ultimate Frisbee as well as competing on Sports Day. Through these interactive activities, students from different schools quickly become friends and many form long-lasting friendships by the end of the program.



## ABOUT THE HOMESTAY



At home, students experience the Canadian lifestyle under the care of kind and friendly homestay families. Over the three weeks, students become a part of the family and many of them will continue to keep in contact with their homestay families long after they leave Canada. Living away from home provides students with an opportunity to learn to be independent in everyday activities such as cleaning up and taking public transit.

We will carefully screen all the host families to ensure that students are placed in a safe, clean, friendly and comfortable environment.

### Available to students:

- Double placement or single placement for students aged 16 or up
- 3 healthy meals daily
- Laundry facilities
- Access to telephone and television
- Activities with host families
- Homestay courtesy orientation session
- Transit information and individual maps for travelling between home and UBC
- Assistance of homestay coordinator if necessary



Q: Will the student need a Study Permit?

A: No, according to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, you do not need to apply for a student permit because the duration of the program is less than six months.

However, you may need a visa to visit Canada if you are from certain regions. (Please see [www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp) for a full list of places that require a Temporary Resident Visa.)

All students MUST have valid travel documents with at least six-months validity before the departure date as a requirement of admission to the program.

Q: Will the student need any insurance?

A: All students MUST have travel insurance that includes medical coverage.

Q: Are there any additional costs?

A: The program fee includes the cost of airport transfer services, homestay with 3 meals a day and excursion admissions.

The program fee does NOT include airfare, travel insurance and additional accommodation.

Q: Who will the student contact in case of emergency?

A: You can contact the Program Coordinator or Pui Ying College staff at anytime during the course of the program. Our Hong Kong Direct line is 3594-3825 and the phone number of our Vancouver office is 604-821-1262.

Q: Who will accompany the students from Hong Kong to Vancouver and with their return trip?

A: Students will travel as a group accompanied by 1 or 2 representative(s) from Pui Ying Secondary School in Hong Kong. Upon arrival, the representatives of the college will meet the group. They will board a school bus and be transported to the college where they will be given a brief welcoming session and refreshments. Students will then be introduced to their host families. At the end of the program, they will return to Hong Kong with the representative(s) from Pui Ying Secondary School as a group.

Q: How is the weather in Vancouver?

A: Summer temperatures are on average 22°C during the day and 13°C during the night. For more details, please visit [www.theweathernetwork.com/weather/cabc0308](http://www.theweathernetwork.com/weather/cabc0308).

Q: What should the students bring on their trips? What should they not bring?

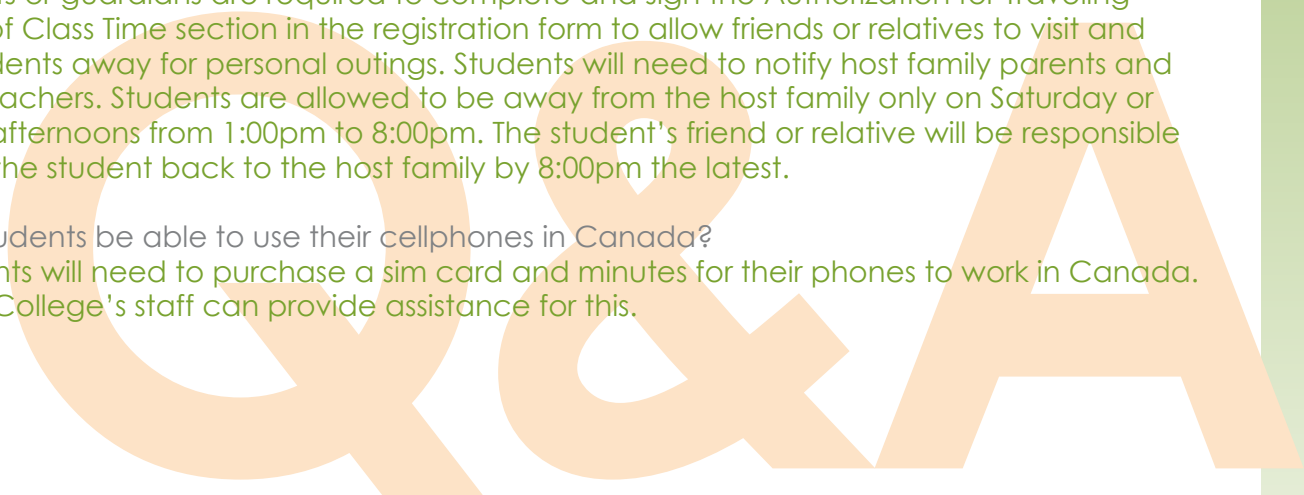
A: Students are advised to bring their personal medication needed for the whole duration of the program, comfortable shoes for walking and at least a warm and waterproof jacket with a hood. Students are advised NOT to bring unnecessary items such as expensive jewelry and electronic devices. The college is NOT responsible for the loss or damage of such items.

Q: What if a friend or relative in Vancouver wants to visit a student and take the student off the campus or away from the host family?

A: Parents or guardians are required to complete and sign the Authorization for Traveling outside of Class Time section in the registration form to allow friends or relatives to visit and take students away for personal outings. Students will need to notify host family parents and escort teachers. Students are allowed to be away from the host family only on Saturday or Sunday afternoons from 1:00pm to 8:00pm. The student's friend or relative will be responsible to bring the student back to the host family by 8:00pm the latest.

Q: Will students be able to use their cellphones in Canada?

A: Students will need to purchase a sim card and minutes for their phones to work in Canada. Pui Ying College's staff can provide assistance for this.





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