



Community Newsletter



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2022! Below you will find an update from the UWC National Committee of Canada (UWC NCC).



As a global movement that makes education a force for peace, our mission and our work come into sharp focus when crises emerge like they have in Ukraine. Please see more of the UWC International's statement [here](#), and sign up for their newsletter [here](#).

Two UWC Community Village Meetings - Meet Faith Abiodun



Community Village Meeting
Meet UWC International's
New Executive Director

Saturday, 26
February 2pm UTC



Heather Gross
Pearson College
(1993-1995)



Faith Abiodun
Executive Director,
UWC International



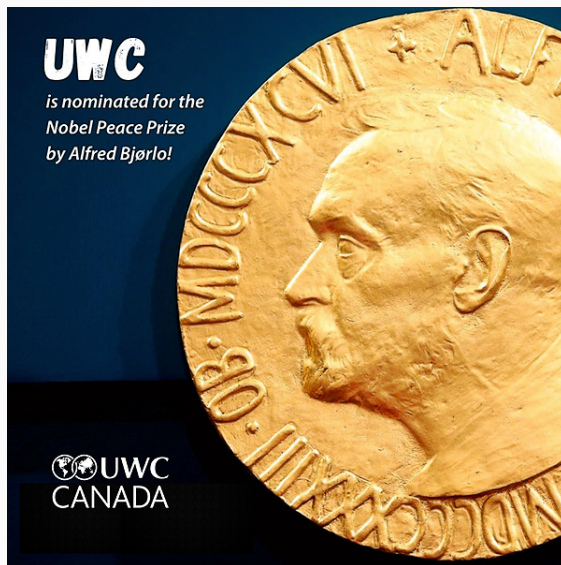
Aleksander Hyncar
UWC Dilijan
(2021-2023)

Register and submit questions in
advance via the link on the UWC Hub.

The UWC Community Village Meetings are back, and the UWC IO is kicking things off with two opportunities to meet and speak with the new Executive Director at UWC International, Faith Abiodun. The first is happening TODAY Saturday, 26 February 2022 at 9 am EST; the second meeting will be on Thursday, 3 March 2022 at 9 AM EST. [Register here!](#)

IYKYK: UWC Unlocked Talks are informal online video conferences offered by UWCers for UWCers, exploring a range of topics to help stimulate our minds, fuel connection and spark new ideas. This is an opportunity for all - from current students to longtime graduates, from UWC staff to parents - to continue those 'common room' chats that make the UWC experience so special and so important -- this time online. **Please note that the events will be recorded and shared on the UWC Hub (<https://uwchub.org/>).

Have you heard? UWC has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize!



The nomination was made by Alfred Bjørlo, member of the Norwegian parliament for the Liberal Party from the region of Sogn and Fjordane (where UWC Red Cross Nordic is located). "Enabling youth from all over the world to meet, live and get an education together, is one of the most important things we can do for peace and to make the world a better place. Today, I have therefore nominated United World Colleges for the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize award" Bjørlo said in his nomination speech. Learn more about it here: <https://uwcrn.no/peace-prize/>

UWC NCC Fundraising Update

Thank you! We are halfway there!

The fundraising committee is pleased to report that we are halfway towards our \$25k objective in our *Founding Supporters Campaign*. Our community has really stepped up, and we want to thank everyone who has donated to the UWC NCC so far. Your support helps us in our objective of keeping the UWC dream financially feasible for selected applicants.

Double your impact!

An anonymous donor has stepped forward to match any new recurring monthly donations made between now and July 1st, 2022. This is a great opportunity to make your donation to the NCC go further.

[Donate here!](#)

[It's not too late to sign up to be a monthly donor.](#) We encourage all parents, alumni (recent or from earlier years), friends and supporters of the UWC movement to donate to the NCC. If you have any questions or want to learn more about the NCC and our activities, please reach out to us at fundraising@ca.uwc.org.

UWC Canada Selections are nearly complete!



After months of reading applications, online selection activities and interviews, we are moving into the "Nominations and Matching Stage". Big shout out to our incredible network of UWC Regional Chapter volunteers (over 100!) for their dedication, energy, engagement, and thoughtfulness in selecting the next generation of UWCers. We can't thank you enough! #bestjobever

What have our UWC NCC Board and Volunteers been up to lately?

How much do you know about the volunteers behind the UWC NCC? These folks do it all and are building momentum for the UWC movement to really make an impact here in Canada! Please find some of their recent recommendations to check out below:

Christie Gibson (she/her) UWC Mahindra graduate & Vice Chair of the UWC NCC - when she isn't contributing to the UWC NCC Governance Committee and being a rock star lawyer and partner at her firm, she has been reading *Under a White Sky*, by Elizabeth Kolbert - a piercing and engaging story of the (good and bad) impact of humans on our environment. [Read →](#)

Jamie Ronson (she/her) UWC USA graduate & Vice Chair of the UWC NCC, and also Chair of the Fundraising Committee has been enjoying following the career of Chelsea Desvantez, a comedian and fellow UWC USA alumni. Her podcast, "Celebrity Book Club" reviews and celebrates the memoirs of celebrity women. It is light, uplifting and provides a different perspective on the lives of these well-known women. (She is also head writer for "The Problem with John Stewart" which invites discussion on some of the USA's greatest social problems. [Listen →](#)

Samantha Munk (she/her) UWC Changshu graduate & long time volunteer with the NCC is now supporting us with Special Projects like alumni community engagement. We are actively creating a volunteer structure to clearly define what you can do as an alum and community member in support of

UWC NCC Chapters Update

We are excited to introduce our fantastic volunteers leading each Chapter within the UWC NCC. In case you didn't know, the UWC NCC has 14 "Chapters" set up for a variety of regional selection activities. We hope to grow this engagement in the future!

Connecting with Québec



Introducing:

Racim Bedjaoui (Pearson UWC graduate/Chair, QC Chapter) and

Laurence Tremblay (Pearson UWC graduate/Outgoing Chair, QC Chapter)



Racim is new in his role this year, taking over from Laurence. We want to thank Laurence for her incredible leadership of the QC Chapter over the past many years, and welcome Racim! Big shout out to both leaders, as the UWC Québec Chapter had a milestone year with their application numbers - 50! We are so grateful for their leadership and their team's hard work throughout the year with selections and so much more.

Reconciliation in Action with Pearson College UWC

On February 24th, 2022 an official signing ceremony marked the start of a process that could see, for the first time that we know of, a school directly involved with the *Land Back* Indigenous-led movement. The standstill agreement signed by the Sc'ianew First Nation, District of Metchosin, Habitat Acquisition Trust, and Pearson College UWC, will give the Sc'ianew First Nation 18 months to exclusively explore the option of an Indigenous Protected Area at Mary Hill. [Learn more about it here.](#)



Shloke Srivastava (he/him) (PCUWC'19) currently studying at the University of Manitoba where much of his time has been spent exploring issues within healthcare surrounding marginalized groups in MB. One of the most interesting reads so far has been *The Health Status of and Access to Healthcare by Registered First Nation Peoples in Manitoba* a report that dives deep into the history of First Nations Peoples in MB, exploring the disproportionate health impacts they face, and translates the findings into action that can be taken to improve the system. Shloke highly recommends taking the time to read any section(s) that might be of interest as there is so much to learn, especially for people with a passion for healthcare. [Read →](#)

Lydia Etherington (she/her) (UWCISAK '21) from Peterborough, Ontario spent her 1st semester of Uni in San Francisco, USA and for her 2nd semester she is now based in Seoul, South Korea as part of her global rotation with Minerva University. She is majoring in Computer Science and slowly developing an affinity for spicy foods. Alongside her at Minerva is her co-leader of the UWC ISAK theatre club, and they are currently figuring out how to create theatre at a school with no campus! Lydia's choice to go to Minerva was a spur of the moment decision, and she couldn't be happier with it. If you're contemplating any hard decisions, she encourages you to check out this TED Talk on how to make hard choices. [Watch →](#)

Thanks for reading - be well!



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If you need any help or have any questions you can reach us by email at nationalcommittee@pearsoncollege.ca

The office for the UWC National Committee of Canada is located at Canada's UWC, Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific on the shores of Pedder Bay on Vancouver Island, BC. Located on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation.

The mailing address for the office is:

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