

# News release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 12, 2017**

## **B.C. students get the chance of a lifetime to study abroad**

**VICTORIA**— A record 29 students in B.C. have been awarded scholarships of between \$6,000 and \$10,000 to study abroad in more than 21 countries from Australia to Korea to Peru, announced Premier John Horgan.

The students are enrolled in overseas programs and will be studying a wide variety of subjects ranging from Business Administration to Molecular Biology (see below for list of recipients).

*“Studying abroad is the chance of a lifetime,”* said Premier Horgan. *“It enriches the lives of students as well as deepens the understanding of world around us. I wish these hard-working 29 students from B.C. every success and hope they bring home new ideas and innovations that will continue to grow our great province.”*

The Premier’s Scholarships are administered by the Irving K. Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society.

Simon Fraser University student, Maggie Li, thanked the Society for the Scholarship which will enable her to complete part of her degree in France. *“I know that this exchange will greatly enrich my educational experience and my global awareness, as well as the knowledge that I can bring to my studies and my future career.”*

*“Ike Barber strongly believed in the inherent benefit we all gain when exposing British Columbia students to a view of the larger world”,* said Rajiv Gandhi, Chair of the Irving K. Barber Society. *“The Society that bears his name is honoured to give those opportunities to these very deserving individuals.”*

Premier’s Scholarships are funded from the returns on a \$17 million endowment fund established by the Province of B.C. for international education. The Scholarships are part of the larger One World international scholarship program offered by the Society.

The Irving K. Barber British Columbia Scholarship Society has awarded over \$4 million in international scholarships since 2008 when the program began.

In addition to the Premier’s Scholarships, One World Scholarships of \$1,000 to \$3,500 are available throughout the year for students attending B.C. public post-secondary institutions. To learn more about how to apply for a scholarship, visit: <http://www.ikbbc.ca/web/international>

–30–

**Media contact:**

Rory Grewar  
Program Director, Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society  
Toll Free: 1-844-478-4645 (1-844-IRVINGK)  
[rgrewar@ikbbc.ca](mailto:rgrewar@ikbbc.ca)

**Background:** The [Irving K. Barber BC Scholarship Society](http://www.ikbbc.ca), whose programs are administered by the [Victoria Foundation](http://www.victoriafoundation.ca), delivers a series of scholarship and award programs that support B.C. students attending public post-secondary institutions both throughout the province and outside the country. Since its inception, the Society has awarded more than \$14 million to over 5,000 students in B.C.



THE IRVING K. BARBER

British Columbia Scholarship Society

ADMINISTERED BY THE VICTORIA FOUNDATION

## 2017 Premier's International Scholarship Recipients

Student Name	Home Institution	Hometown	Destination Country	Program of Study
Carly Aasen	University of Victoria	Powell River	New Zealand	Social Work
Simranpreet Anand	University of British Columbia	Surrey	Greece & Germany	BA Fine Arts
Sabrina Burnett	Capilano University	Pitt Meadows	Ecuador & England	Motion Picture Arts
Milanne Desfosses	Okanagan College	Fort St. John	Spain	BA Business Administration
Kian Draper	University of Northern British Columbia	Prince George	Australia	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Olivia Friesen	University of the Fraser Valley	Abbotsford	Germany	Ba Arts
Kira Johnson	Okanagan College	West Kelowna	Germany	Business Administration
Jessica Jun	University of British Columbia	Los Angeles	Sweden	B.Sc., Integrated Science
Haley Kuzek	Capilano University	Salmon Arm	France	Liberal Studies
Katrina Leffelaar	Vancouver Island University	Castlegar	Peru	Ba Social Work
Ke Qi (Maggie) Li	Simon Fraser University	Surrey	France	French
Brent Lough	Thompson Rivers University	Kamloops	UK & Scotland	BA Business Administration
Corin MacPhail	University of Northern British Columbia	Prince George	Scotland	Health Sciences
Jason Mah	University of British Columbia	Richmond	Spain	BA - Commerce
Thanh Thuy (Teresa) Nguyen	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	Mexico	Bachelor of Arts
Maxwell Nicholson	University of Victoria	Grand Forks	Singapore	BA Science
Grace Oswald	Okanagan College	Kelowna	Finland	Business Administration
Caitlin Parray	University of the Fraser Valley	Chilliwack	Scotland	BA Arts

<b>Student Name</b>	<b>Home Institution</b>	<b>Hometown</b>	<b>Destination Country</b>	<b>Program of Study</b>
Jessica Pyett	Vancouver Island University	Nanaimo	Belize	BA Geography
Katherine Robidoux	University of British Columbia	Ottawa, ON	Norway	BA Arts
Kit Schwarz	University of British Columbia	Chilliwack	England & France	International Economics
Christopher Severight	University of Northern British Columbia	Terrace	New Zealand	Masters of Social Work
Lauren Shykora	University of British Columbia	Enderby	Netherlands	BA Arts
Alanna Tom	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	Australia	Juris Doctor
Jessica Vigneron	University of the Fraser Valley	Chilliwack	Singapore & Japan	BSC
Vincent Wan	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	Korea	BA Science
Natalie Wong	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	Denmark	BA Psychology, Anthropology