

International News

email: internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca
website: rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices
address: 4747-53 Street, Red Deer, Alberta Canada T4N 2E6
Facebook: Red Deer Public Schools International Student Alumni

SPRING 2009

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

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THE LAST WORD

- Welcome 2nd Semester Students

FORMS TO RETURN

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- Your Plan for Next Year

... FROM MR. PORKKA ...

It is hard to believe, but the end of the school year will be here before we know it. Here are a few things to remember:

- If you are planning to return to us next year, we require a deposit of \$1000 by May 1 in order to hold a place for you next year.
- Students from Mexico, Brazil and Colombia who require revalidation and legalization of their report cards, need to pay close attention to the procedure described later in this newsletter.
- If you have any questions or concerns regarding life at school or at home, please feel free contact us.

For homestay concerns, please contact

- Mrs. Jane Davies jdavies@rdpsd.ab.ca
342-3729 or cell 352-2823.

You can also contact myself at International Services,

- Mr. R. Porkka, 342-3726,
rporkka@rdpsd.ab.ca

or

- Mrs. S. Ainscough, 357-3990,
sainscough@rdpsd.ab.ca

For academic concerns, please see your international school counsellor.

Make the most of your time in Canada, and don't forget to take lots of pictures to share with your family and friends!



Lindsay Thurber High School, Red Deer, Alberta
www.rdpsd.ab.ca/ltchs



Hunting Hills High School, Red Deer, Alberta
www.rdpsd.ab.ca/hhhs

RENEWING YOUR STUDY PERMIT

Student Corner

How to Renew

If your study permit is expiring before your study time is completed, please read carefully:

A STUDY PERMIT is a document that allows you to study in Canada. It is the document that was stapled to your passport when you arrived in Canada.

You may contact our office for a

copy of the study kit and to obtain copies of necessary documents.

APPLICATION KITS TO RENEW YOUR STUDY PERMIT are available at the CIC call centre at 1-888-242-2100 (no charge). Press "0" to speak to a Call Agent.

OR

The kit may be downloaded from your computer. To do this, go to the following website and follow the links:

www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/visitor.asp

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

CIC – Study Permit
CPC Vegreville, Unit 101
Vegreville, Alberta
T9C 1X5 CANADA

IMPORTANT: You must mail application from within Canada.

DEPARTURE DATES – Returning Home

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS are expected to return to their home countries no later than June 30th.

Year End Departure Dates for International Students:

June 27-28

Transportation to the airport is available on these dates.

Students departing outside these dates may be subject to an additional charge to a maximum \$165.00 for airport drop off.

Students cannot extend their stay into July as our program is over at the end of June.



Congratulations to the many students who achieved academic excellence in first semester!

Way to go!



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students achieved academic excellence in Semester One:

Adamcova, Nina
Costa, Yuri
DalBosco, Rafaely
Dantas Filho, Francisco
DePaula, Matheus
Herrmann, Merle
Kaminaga, Ayumi
Koga, Rafael

Kong, Tszayan
Kubo, Sayuri
Liso, José
Marques, Julia
Mejia Garci, Alberto
Porto Alegre, Pedro
Qin, Bamboo
Salvadori, Luiza
Tatsumi, Taiki
Tokai, Marina
Wu, Jaqueline
Xu, Haiying

BE HAPPY!

It is important to become part of your host family. Your host family is not a hotel.

Phone your host parent if you are going to be late for supper or arriving home.

Help out with household duties.

Make your bed and keep your room clean.

No phone calls after 9:30 at night. That is usually quiet family time.

Remember - your host family is providing your home away from home.

Being an active family member of the household will make for a positive experience for everyone ;-)
Be Happy!

Student Corner

What Are *You* Doing Next Year?

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
REGARDING YOUR INTENTIONS FOR SCHOOL YEAR
2009-2010: Please PRINT

Your FIRST Name

Your LAST Name

Your HOST Family Name

NEXT YEAR I WILL (Please MARK One)

- _____ Study in my HOME Country
- _____ Study Another Year in RED DEER
- _____ Study in a DIFFERENT School System
- _____ Attend UNIVERSITY or COLLEGE in Canada
- _____ Attend UNIVERSITY or COLLEGE at HOME

If your HOME COUNTRY ADDRESS has changed, please let us know.

When Are You Returning Home?

DATE:

AIRPORT: (check one)
Calgary ____ Edmonton ____

AIRLINE:

FLIGHT NUMBER:

TIME:

IMPORTANT

- **Departure DATES are June 27 and 28.**
- **Transportation will be provided on these dates at no extra charge to you.**

- **You MUST return this completed form to International Services before**

MAY 1, 2009

Student Activity Corner



Ayumi Kaminaga visits Disneyland during school break.



Students having fun together!



Team sports.



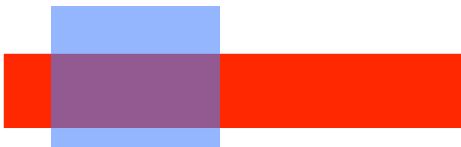
Preparing to ski at Canyon Ski Hill.



Bonding on the ski hill.



Snowboarding for the first time!



RECIPE CORNER

Czech Republic / Germany

• APPLE STRUDEL

Things we need:

- puff pastry
- apples
- vanilla
- sugar
- cinammon
- raisins
- walnuts
- egg



Mrs. Ainscough, Nina Adamcova, Mr. Porkka, and Merle Herrmann. Nina and Merle made the strudel to share before returning home. Nina provided the recipe. Mmmm – good!

Roll the puff pastry (one package is usually enough for two strudels). Shred the apples and put them into a line in the middle of pastry. Add vanilla, sugar and cinnamon. You can also add raisins and walnuts, that is optional.

Roll the strudel together, close the ends and try to roll them under the strudel so the apples won't come out when it's baking. Spread with the egg. Bake according to the instructions for puff pastry. It's supposed to be a golden brown color and smell very good.

Not a Grad, But Still Living the Dream

by Nina Adamcova

For the last couple of days, I seem to have some kind of clock in my head. Every Saturday means I have one week left.

Five months ago, I had no idea what to expect, and what Canada was going to be like.

I didn't know how -35 degrees feels.

I didn't know if I would get along with my substitute family, and I definitely didn't know if I would ever gain the feeling of acceptance – like I actually belong here.

Being away from home, from everything and everyone you know can be hard; but people around me make me feel like I am at home.

I still miss the Czech Republic, but I still feel at home here.

I can go for a walk in -30 degree weather.

I am learning how to skate, the Rebels came to be “my” team and that makes me happy.

I have made many friends here who always say it is a “great experience” to have this opportunity, but it is much more than that. It can ultimately change a person.

The only thing I know for sure is that coming to Canada and experiencing everything it has brought, was one of the best decisions of my life.

NOTE: Nina was with us for one semester and returned to her home in the Czech Republic at the end of January.

Homestay Corner



Natalia Valderrama, a student from Colombia, poses with her parents during their recent visit to Red Deer.

Grades On-Line with E-Link Students can access using this method:

- Open up Internet Browser
- In the Address Bar type <http://elink.rdpsd.ab.ca>
- Type your user ID and password
- Click Enter Gradebook

User ID and password are the same as used to access school email account.

Questions? Contact the librarian in your school.

As the end of the homestay experience approaches, a mixture of feelings may emerge: *enthusiasm* about farewell parties and graduation activities, *apprehension* about saying goodbye, *excitement* about returning to loved ones back home, or *concern* about having changed so much that acceptance at home may be difficult.

As hosts, you will want to be aware that it is not at all unusual for students to protect themselves by emotionally distancing themselves from their host family. This can be seen through behaviours like withdrawal, irritability, and faultfinding. Although sadness and tension should not be dismissed or minimized, the final weeks can be a time to put a good ending to an overall rewarding experience.

Ways that host families and students experience this stage may vary. In many cases, closeness develops and special efforts are made to get the most out of the time remaining. In other cases, there is a loosening of bonds, resulting in a noticeable shift away from the comfortable relationship of previous months.

As the departure date approaches, many students fluctuate between feeling quite jubilant and suffering pangs of apprehension. This is known as '*reverse culture shock*'. Issues related to reverse culture shock include:

- a) the possibility of being criticized for appearing "Canadianized"
- b) feeling out of step with the changes that have taken place at home
- c) being ignored by old friends
- d) missing one's host family
- e) facing school exams
- f) noticing an indifference most people at home will display toward the student's international experience
- g) finding ways to integrate what has been learned into one's daily life

Frequently, family members find themselves shifting between feelings of loss and gain. During your final weeks together, it's important to spend some time reviewing the year's experience. As part of this review, some families may find it helpful to put together a selection of photos. As photos and keepsakes are assembled, family members have a chance to share personal reactions, talk about what they've learned, and describe how they've changed. To express symbolically what words alone cannot, a farewell gift may be given on the last day. Examples are, a family photo, a thoughtful letter slipped into the student's luggage or pocket, a symbolic house key on which a special message can be inscribed.

We hope your experience has been and will continue to be one that will be cherished.

Jane Davies, Homestay Coordinator

Prices for 2009-2010

All Fees are in Canadian Dollars

	Full Year	One Semester (Half Year)
Tuition Fees	\$9850	\$4925
Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$200	\$200
Homestay Placement Fee	\$400	\$400
Medical Insurance	\$580	\$300

PLEASE NOTE: *Monthly Homestay: \$700. For additional nights, please add \$25 per day. Homestay fees include all meals.*

Homestay Applications

The STUDENT should provide the following if homestay is required:

- Complete a homestay application form
- Include an attached letter of introduction to host family
- Include photos of the student in a variety of settings with family and or friends.

REMEMBER – a detailed homestay application with extra details helps to better match student with host families.

The PURPOSE of the homestay application is to help present the student to the potential host families.

Well presented and organized portfolios give a better first impression to potential host families.

HOW TO PAY FEES:

Payment Method #1 - Preferred Method

Payment of funds from outside Canada can be made using **Custom House* StudentPay**.

StudentPay is available in various languages to assist you with your transfer and provides you with bank details from over 25 countries worldwide, so you can directly transfer funds from bank accounts in your own country.

StudentPay offers excellent exchange rates and helps you to avoid some or all bank service charges.

Since 1992, Custom House has provided foreign exchange solutions to businesses and individuals around the world.

Custom House **StudentPay** is a safe & secure method of paying invoices to Red Deer School Board.

For complete instructions on how to use this new method, please go to the following link:

www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices/bank

Agent Corner

REMINDER

Complete, detailed applications ensure quicker processing.

Student Applications should include the following:

- A complete and accurate RDPSD student application
- Certified copy of birth certificate and passport
- Letter of intent stating why student wishes to study in Canada and long-term academic goals
- If homestay is required, a completed Homestay information form
- Two references (recommendation letters) with full names and telephone numbers
- Transcript of marks for past two years
- Two recent photographs

Payment Method #2

If you cannot use the **StudentPay** system from your country you can transfer to our bank directly.

Contact a local bank in your country and provide them with the banking information given here. They will deposit the money for you in our bank account, in trust. *Services and transfer fees will apply.*

Account Holder:

Red Deer Public School Board

Bank Name:

Community Savings -Taylor Plaza Branch
(Credit Union Central of Canada)

Bank Address:

#400- 6730 Taylor Drive
Red Deer, Alberta
Canada
T4P 1K4

Telephone number (country code)+ 403-347-0731

Account Information:

Account Number: 4517280

Transit Number: 11629

Bank Number: 899

Swift Code: CUCXCATTAL

Visa, MasterCard, Amex as well as bank transfers and travelers' cheques are accepted.

Travel Policy

FOLLOWING IS THE TRAVEL POLICY FOR RED DEER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

1. Students may travel out of town *with their* host families.
2. Students may travel out of town *with another* host family.

Under *any* other circumstances, **ALL** of the following conditions must be met:

1. Student must be under the direct supervision of an adult 25 years or older.
2. Student's natural parents must provide written consent.
3. Student must provide details of proposed trip with contact info of supervising adult, etc.
4. Student must receive consent from Mr. Rob Porkka before incurring any costs associated with the proposed trip.

This policy applies to all students studying in High School or Middle School, and includes those students over the age of 18.

HOMESTAY AND INSURANCE

NOTICE:

Effective for the 2009-2010 School Year

ALL students in our homestay program must use our insurance provider.

For details about our provider, go to the website at www.ingleinternational.com/rdpsd and follow the links.

Agent Corner



Rob Porkka, Director for Red Deer International Program, poses with translator at a Mexico Student Agent Fair.



Red Deer Public Schools is now a member of CAPS-I (Canadian Association of Public Schools- International) www.caps-i.ca

CAPS-I is an association of 52 Canadian public school districts/boards that provide educational programs to international students from around the world.

The CAPS-I website is a comprehensive resource of information for international students, parents and partner agencies that are interested in learning more about the various opportunities for studying in public schools throughout Canada.

Over 10,000 international students are currently studying in CAPS-I elementary, middle, junior high and high schools.

Revalidation Request

Student Corner

ATTENTION STUDENTS FROM BRAZIL AND COLOMBIA



Some students from Brazil, Mexico and Colombia, who need their year of study recognized by their home country's Minister of Education, must have their documents revalidated by their embassy in Canada.

If your agency is Interprograms or Griffé Turismo (Brazilian students) your agent will do this for you. If you require assistance, International Services can help you through the process.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THE FORM INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IF YOU REQUIRE THIS SERVICE.

COST OF REVALIDATION:

- \$125 Canadian Dollars, payable in advance

THE FEE COVERS:

- Legalization of report card by a Canadian lawyer
- Revalidation by your Consulate or Embassy in Canada
- Courier Service to and from the Consulate or Embassy to our office in Red Deer
- Courier Service to you in your home country



THIS IS HOW THE PROCESS WORKS:

- Final report cards for students are issued about July 10 (they are mailed to Canadian students' homes and to our office for International students)
- The final report card is legalized by a Red Deer lawyer.
- The legalized report card is sent to the Mexican Consulate in Calgary for revalidation.
- The revalidated report card is returned to the International Services office in Red Deer after about 7 working days.
- The revalidated report card is sent by courier to you in your home country.

If all goes well, you will have your documents to present to your school by the third week of July.



The cost of revalidation (\$125) is payable by cheque, cash or credit card at the International Services office.

You do not require revalidation if you have already graduated from high school in your home country.

If you need Revalidation - please call or email International Office by May 1, 2009.



Request For Revalidation / Legalization of School Marks

Many countries including Mexico, Brazil and Colombia require school final report cards to be legalized and revalidated in Canada in order for the document to be accepted at the home school.

The cost is \$125.00 for this service, which includes all legal, embassy and courier fees. Payment may be made by cash, debit card, credit card or cheque at our office.

Please complete this form and return along with payment to the International Services Office.

Revalidation Request		
Please print clearly –		
Last Name (Family):	First Name:	Middle Initial:
<p>• Address of where you want the documents sent once they are legalized. These documents will be sent via courier not regular mail therefore you must provide abuilding address not at box number.</p>		
Delivery Address Street		
City:	Province/ State:	Country & Postal Code:
Full Telephone Number:	Email address:	Date of Application:


Red Deer Public Schools
 International Services
 4747 53 Street Red Deer, Alberta
 Canada T4N 2E6
 Telephone: 403-343-1405
 Email: internationalservices@rdpsd.ab.ca

The Last Word


Welcome! 2nd Semester Arrivals!

David Alzate Cardona, *Colombia*
Denis Papa Casagrande, *Brazil*
Bruno Donadio Araujo, *Brazil*
Joao Paulo Franzotti Rogerio, *Brazil*
Carlos Domingos Chaga Gama, *Brazil*
Isabela Gubolino, *Brazil*
Daniela Gutmanova, *Czech Republic*
Sanyuk Han, *South Korea*
Gilok Kim, *South Korea*


Bruno Lopes, *Brazil*
José Luiz Franzotti, *Brazil*
Victor Moreira, *Brazil*
Min Jin Park, *South Korea*
Jessica da Silva Pinheiro, *Brazil*
Hirotaka Tsuji, *Japan*
Natalia Valderrama, *Brazil*
Nataly Valle, *Brazil*
Kei Watase, *Japan*




LIVE
in a safe, beautiful community in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.




LEARN
with inspiring teachers in Canada's top ranking schools.



GROW
and develop to reach your personal goals - welcome new opportunities.



Assurance of quality
High School Programs by:



edlea
Red Deer International
Education Alliance



coed i coop
Canadian Association of
Public Schools - International
Association canadienne des
Écoles publiques - International

Map of Canada with Red Deer highlighted

RED DEER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices
Red Deer Public School District
4747 53 Street
Red Deer, Alberta, Canada
T4N 2E6
T 1-877-343-1405
F 1-403-347-2101
E international.services@rdpsd.ab.ca

● WINNIPEG ● RED DEER ● TORONTO ● MONTREAL

We're Located on the WEB!

For a full colour look at this newsletter, go to

www.rdpsd.ab.ca/internationalservices