

HIGH SCHOOL IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

R M I S P
STUDY IN CANADA

International Student Program

Revelstoke · Golden · Invermere · Kimberley · Cranbrook · Fernie · Sparwood
Vanderhoof · Burns Lake



RMISP WELCOMES THE WORLD

The Rocky Mountain International Student Program (RMISP) welcomes students from around the world to its public schools in Revelstoke, Golden, Invermere, Kimberley, Cranbrook, Fernie, Sparwood, Vanderhoof and Burns Lake in beautiful British Columbia, Canada. RMISP manages the international student programs in four BC public school districts: SD No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay), SD No. 6 (Rocky Mountain), SD No. 19 (Revelstoke) and SD No. 91 (Nechako Lakes).

The RMISP region of BC is home to some of the best outdoor recreation opportunities in North America. The area includes four national parks (Glacier, Mount Revelstoke, Kootenay, and Yoho), and borders on internationally-renowned Banff National Park. The area has become one of Canada's top golf destinations and is also well known for adventure sports like kayaking, mountain biking, river rafting, hiking, and rock climbing. The RMISP region is most famous for its five ski resorts, three of which rank in the top ten in North America. Other attractions in the area include Fort Steele Heritage Town, Emerald Lake, Radium Hot Springs, the Burgess Shale fossil field, Fairmont Hot Springs, and Takakkaw Falls.

Our RMISP Outpost boosts the communities of Vanderhoof and Burns Lake, in BC's Northern Interior. This area is famous for its untouched natural beauty and is the next to be developed tourist area of BC. Burns Lake is home to Canada's first International Mountain Bike Association (IMBO) Ride Centre.





WHY STUDY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS?

- 🍁 High academic standards
- 🍁 Semester system
- 🍁 Caring and qualified teachers
- 🍁 Low proportion of international students to Canadians
- 🍁 Program-wide excursions and activities
- 🍁 Caring and supportive Homestay Coordinators
- 🍁 Moderate climate with four distinct seasons
- 🍁 Recreation facilities
- 🍁 Outdoor Education/Leadership
- 🍁 French Immersion/German/Japanese
- 🍁 Unique electives
- 🍁 Safe communities
- 🍁 Healthy lifestyle

Why Choose RMISP?



PEOPLE

The RMISP team is committed to making your stay in Canada the experience of a lifetime! We love where we live and can't wait to share it with you. RMISP has dedicated Homestay Coordinators in each of its nine host communities. They work closely with our host families and school administrators to provide our students with the care and support necessary to ensure all students maximize their time in Canada.

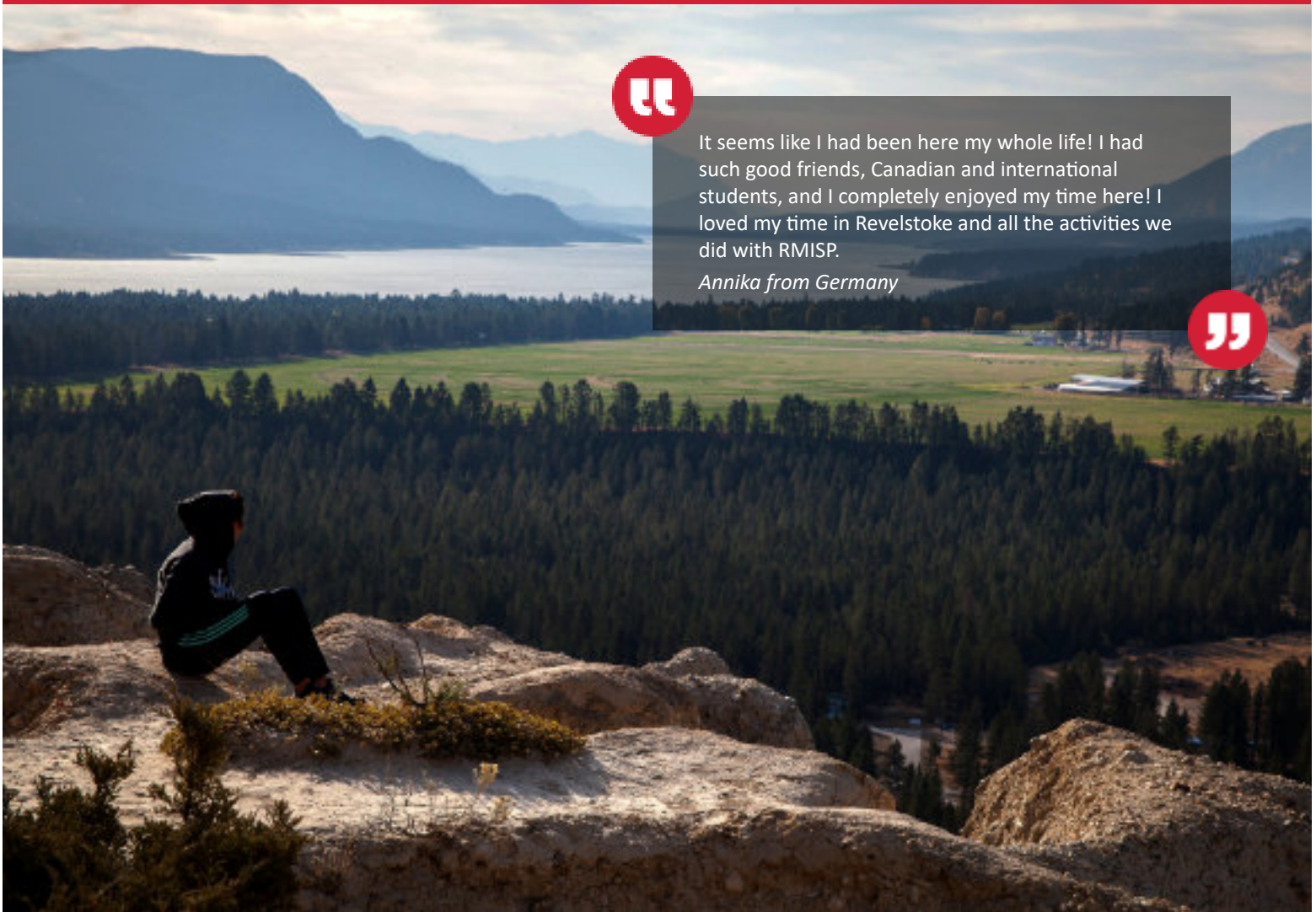
PLACES

The RMISP region of British Columbia is the ultimate backdrop for your study-abroad experience. Live and learn in one of the most beautiful places on the planet! In addition to world-class ski resorts and an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities, the host communities of Revelstoke, Golden, Invermere, Kimberley, Cranbrook, Fernie, Sparwood, Vanderhoof and Burns Lake offer international students an authentic Canadian cultural experience.



It seems like I had been here my whole life! I had such good friends, Canadian and international students, and I completely enjoyed my time here! I loved my time in Revelstoke and all the activities we did with RMISP.

Annika from Germany



“

The best things about my experience in RMISP were the new friends I made and the very different life at school. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to live this wonderful experience.

Lillian from Brazil

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RMISP LOCATIONS

RMISP is located on the warm side of the world-famous Rocky Mountains in the Kootenay Rockies tourism region and in the Northern Interior of British Columbia, Canada. RMISP places students in nine host communities in these amazing areas.

REVELSTOKE

Revelstoke is an active community situated on the edge of Mount Revelstoke National Park and just west of world-famous Glacier National Park. The city is home to about 8,000 people and is well known for its access to outdoor recreation activities, particularly those involving mountains and snow! Revelstoke Mountain Resort is now globally known for its amazing powder and for having the largest vertical descent of any ski area in North America.



GOLDEN

Golden is located three hours west of Calgary and has a population of about 4,000 people. It is nestled between the Purcell and Rocky Mountain ranges. Tourists from all over the planet visit Golden for the area's world-class outdoor recreation. Golden is home to Kicking Horse Mountain Resort, often ranked as one of the top ten ski resorts in North America.



INVERMERE

Invermere is a lakeside resort community with a population of about 3,500 people in the town and 10,000 in the surrounding area. It is the economic centre of the Columbia Valley and boasts many unique, vibrant shops and services. Panorama Mountain Resort is about 20 minutes west of Invermere and is serviced by a free shuttle during ski season.





KIMBERLEY

Kimberley is a four-season resort community located on the slopes of the Purcell Mountain Range across the valley from the world-famous Rocky Mountains. The town has approximately 8,000 people and is located about 20 minutes from Cranbrook, the region's largest city. The Kimberley Alpine Resort is located within city limits and it is easily accessible to students. Other local amenities include an indoor aquatic centre, two hockey arenas, and an indoor rock-climbing gym.



CRANBROOK

Cranbrook has a population of 20,000 and services a surrounding area of nearly 50,000 people. It offers most of the services found in much larger cities including an international airport, shopping malls, block stores, College of the Rockies, city buses, movie theatres, fitness gyms, a 4,500-seat arena, an indoor aquatic centre, and other excellent recreation facilities. Cranbrook is located about 25 minutes from the Kimberley Alpine Resort.



FERNIE

Fernie has a population of 5,500 people. It has a beautiful, historic downtown area, an indoor aquatic centre, a hockey arena, the Fernie Arts Station, and many trendy restaurants, coffee shops, and stores. The Fernie Alpine Resort is about 10 minutes from the town and is world famous for its powder skiing.

SPARWOOD

The community of Sparwood has a population of about 4,000 people and is located less than 30 minutes from Fernie and the Fernie Alpine Resort.

Sparwood is one of the highest-elevation towns in Canada and is known for the coal mining that takes place on a large scale in the nearby mountains.



VANDERHOOF

Vanderhoof is in the geographical centre of British Columbia, located on the banks of the Nechako River. It is a community of about 4,500 people. This area is a growing tourism hub in BC, famous for its abundant wildlife - moose, deer, elk and bears. It is also a great fishing spot - summer and winter. Vanderhoof is renowned for its outdoor recreational opportunities from skiing to biking to snowmobiling. Vanderhoof has warm summers and cold, snowy winters.



BURNS LAKE

Burns Lake is a rural village in the northwestern central interior of British Columbia. It is located approximately 100km west of Vanderhoof. It has approximately 2000 residents. Naturally beautiful, Burns Lake is well known for its extensive network of mountain biking trails and is known internationally by becoming Canada's first IMBA (International Mountain Bike Association) Ride Centre. In winter, these trails become cross-country ski and snowmobile trails.





It has been a really good experience that has changed my perspective on how I see life, being in another country is a really big deal. It's been a really amazing experience and a lifetime experience.

Julian from Mexico



RMISP HIGH SCHOOLS

RMISP is pleased to provide international students with top-quality curricular and extra-curricular opportunities to learn, play, and grow in School Districts 5, 6, 19 and 91. All RMISP schools are committed to academic excellence in learning environments that are innovative, collaborative, and engaging.

REVELSTOKE SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Revelstoke, British Columbia
GRADES: 8-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 400

Revelstoke Secondary School (RSS) hosts between 20 – 25 international students per year. The school is located in a newer building (built in 2011) with a 250-seat theatre and oversized gymnasium. RSS is well known for its extra-curricular activities.



GOLDEN SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Golden, British Columbia
GRADES: 8-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 325

Golden Secondary School (GSS) hosts between 20 – 30 international students at a time. The school offers a wide variety of elective courses including its well-known and highly-regarded Outdoor Education class and an ice hockey skills development class. French Immersion is available at GSS.



DAVID THOMPSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Invermere, British Columbia
GRADES: 8-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 425

David Thompson Secondary School (DTSS) usually hosts between 15 – 20 international students. The campus is modern and spacious and includes a community greenhouse, commercial kitchen, and restaurant-like cafeteria (the Rocky Mountain Café) linked to its well-known chef-training and culinary arts classes. Outdoor Education is available at DTSS.





SELKIRK SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Kimberley, British Columbia

GRADES: 8-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 450

Selkirk Secondary School (SSS) in Kimberley has one of the oldest and most highly-regarded international student programs in Canada. Students from around the world have been attending Selkirk since the 1980s. Selkirk hosts between 30 – 40 international students at a time. The school offers several unique elective courses that are very popular with international students including Outdoor Education and an ice hockey skills development class.



MOUNT BAKER SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Cranbrook, British Columbia

GRADES: 10-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 900

MBSS is RMISP's largest high school and usually hosts 35 – 45 international students each year. The school offers a wide variety of academic and elective courses including popular Fine Arts classes like Music Composition and Technology, Theatre Production, Theatre Performance, Drama Film & Television, and Visual Arts & Media Technology. MBSS makes use of the 600-seat Key City Theatre for concerts and performances. French Immersion and Spanish are available at MBSS.



FERNIE SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Fernie, British Columbia

GRADES: 7-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 350

Built in 1998, Fernie Secondary School (FSS) is in a modern building in a beautiful location. FSS usually hosts about 10 - 15 international students at a time.

Popular school sports teams may include golf, track and field, and ski/snowboard.

SPARWOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Sparwood, British Columbia
GRADES: 7-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 300

Sparwood Secondary School (SpSS) is located in a newer building in a beautiful setting. SpSS is well regarded as both an academic high school and for its athletics. The school offers a wide range of elective classes as well as core academic subjects.



NECHAKO VALLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Vanderhoof, British Columbia
GRADES: 7-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 600

Nechako Valley Secondary school (NVSS) is ready to host 20 international students. They offer specialty electives such as a very popular Aviation program, Entrepreneurship, Spanish and Japanese. They offer a full range of academic and elective courses.

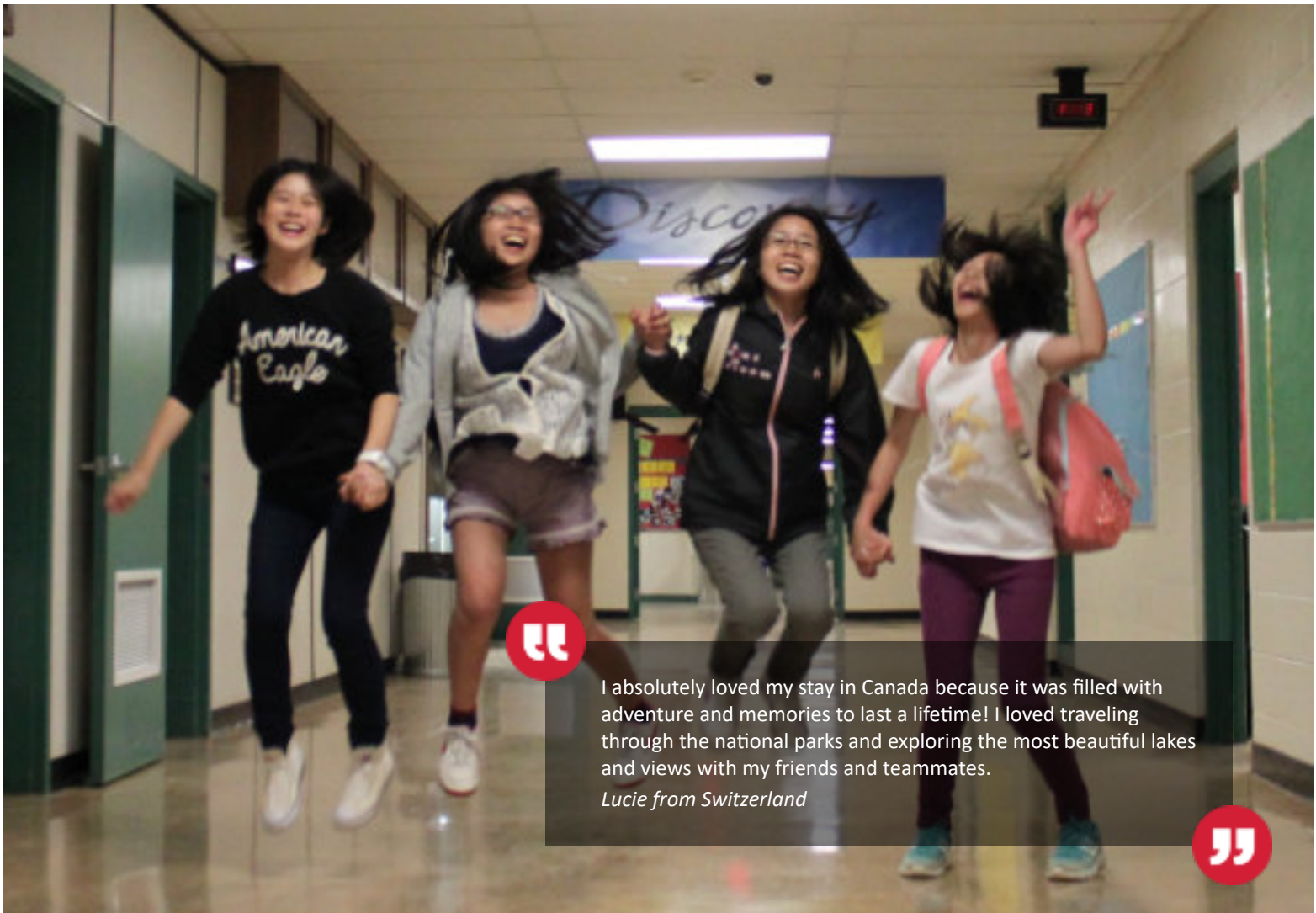


LAKES DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

LOCATION: Burns Lake, British Columbia
GRADES: 8-12 **NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 360

Lakes District Secondary School (LDSS) is a special school for a special type of international student. It is a remote location with few international students attending. They offer Outdoor Education for grade 8 students as well as German, Photography and jewelry making to name a few of their unique course offerings.





I absolutely loved my stay in Canada because it was filled with adventure and memories to last a lifetime! I loved traveling through the national parks and exploring the most beautiful lakes and views with my friends and teammates.

Lucie from Switzerland



RMISP ON CAMPUS

RMISP places students in high schools in Revelstoke, Golden, Invermere, Kimberley, Cranbrook, Fernie, Sparwood, Vanderhoof and Burns Lake. Placements are also available in Cranbrook's two middle schools (Grades 7 – 9) and at elementary schools (Grade 7 only) in Golden, Invermere, and Kimberley.

ACADEMICS

Great teachers, great classrooms, and great labs: RMISP's high schools have everything necessary for students to excel academically. Graduating international students have gone on to study at top universities in Canada, the USA, and worldwide.

ELECTIVES

RMISP's high schools offer many unique, special-interest classes popular with international students. Some examples include Outdoor Education, Chef Training, Astronomy, Guitar, Theatre Performance, Ski Patrol, Studio Arts, Media Arts, Photography, SuperFit, Music Composition and Technology, Hockey Skill Development, Concert and Jazz Band, Concert and Vocal Jazz Choir, Theatre Production, Drama Film & Television, and Visual Arts & Media Technology, Aviation, Japanese & German. Not all courses are available at all schools and/or in every semester. Confirm availability with RMISP.

SPORTS TEAMS & CLUBS

All nine RMISP schools have athletic departments and sports teams. Fun clubs and recreational sports are also available. Popular school sports teams may include soccer, volleyball, basketball, rugby, ski/snowboard, baseball, golf, cross-country running, curling, and swimming. Clubs may include robotics, mountain biking, rock climbing, badminton, weight training, and tennis.



HOMESTAY

Living with a Canadian family provides international students with a caring and supportive family environment. It gives students a chance to learn about Canadian culture, customs, and lifestyle. Host families are carefully selected and must undergo Criminal Record Checks before being accepted into RMISP.

We have seven Homestay Coordinators who look after an average of 30 students each. They make sure each student is placed with a family who is the best possible match. Each family provides a safe, clean, comfortable home environment, a private bedroom for the student with facilities for studying, and three healthy meals (and snacks) each day. Students meet weekly with their local Homestay Coordinator.





Without this program I wouldn't have been able to do so many amazing things in Canada. I made so many fantastic friends from all over the world including Canada, people that I will never forget.

Kate from Australia



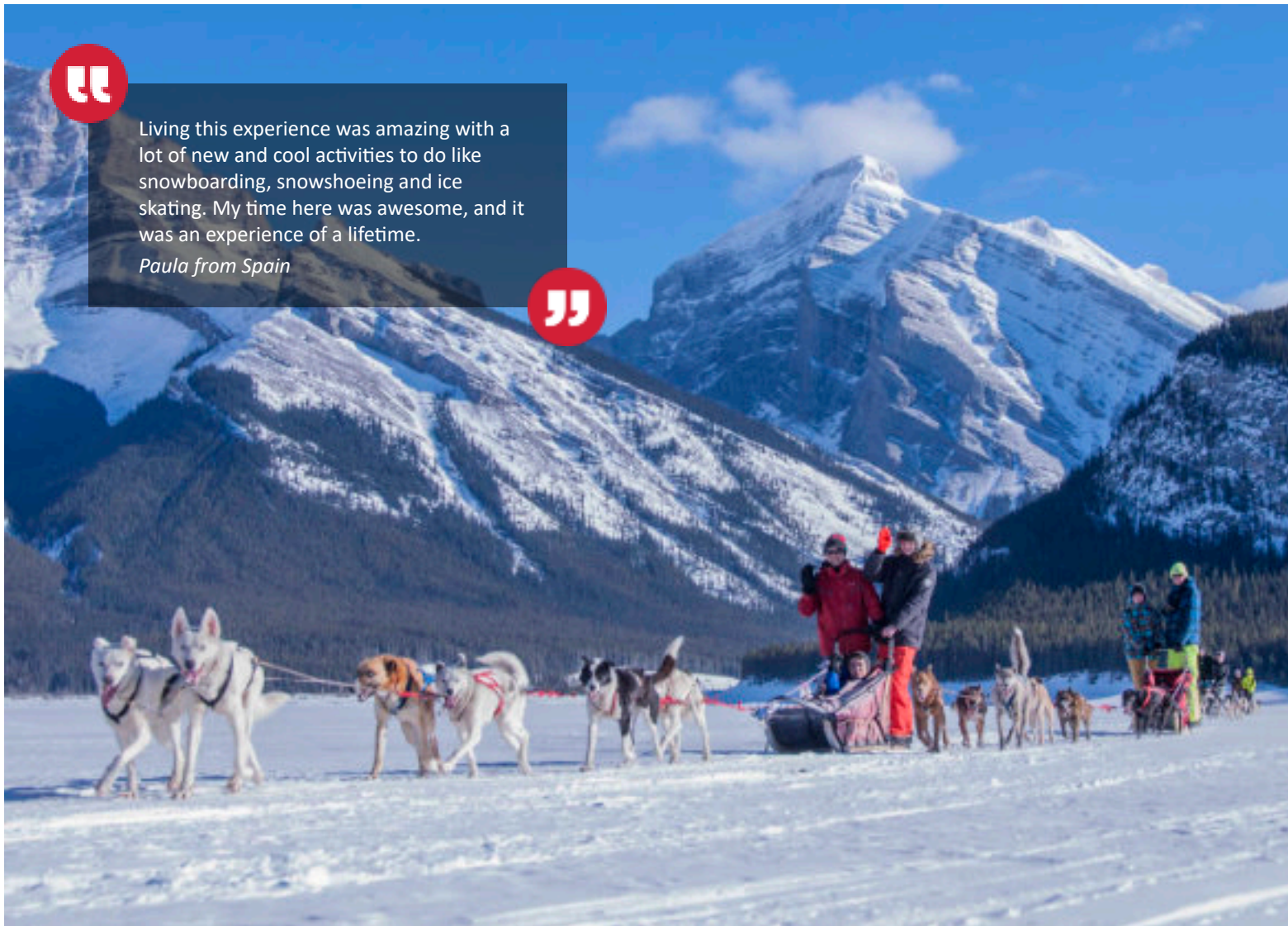
ROCKY REWARDS

Invest in yourself and earn a trip to Vancouver! The Rocky Rewards program encourages international students to take their study-abroad experience to the next level. Participants earn points for participating in school clubs and sports, volunteering at school and in their communities, participating in community events, and getting good work habits grades on their report cards. Students who earn enough points are rewarded with a free 5-day trip to Vancouver.

“

Living this experience was amazing with a lot of new and cool activities to do like snowboarding, snowshoeing and ice skating. My time here was awesome, and it was an experience of a lifetime.

Paula from Spain

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RMISP EXPERIENCE

RMISP is best known for its amazing Experience Schedule. RMISP organizes a wide variety of activities, events, and trips that are strategically scheduled to maximize each student's stay in Canada.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

RMISP sponsors monthly activities, events, and trips for which no additional fees are charged.

Examples include river rafting, a 2-day Calgary trip, hike and hot springs, curling, ski/snowboard day, dog sledding, a 3-day West Edmonton Mall trip, winter camping, canoe/kayak day, and a farewell party.

The schedule is subject to change each year. It is designed to provide students with an experience each month and in many cases Canadian students are invited to participate as well.

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

RMISP arranges several annual experiences that require additional fees. The schedule of these optional experiences is subject to change. Some past examples include NHL hockey games, trips to the Columbia Icefields, CFL football games, and international boat cruises in Waterton Lakes National Park.



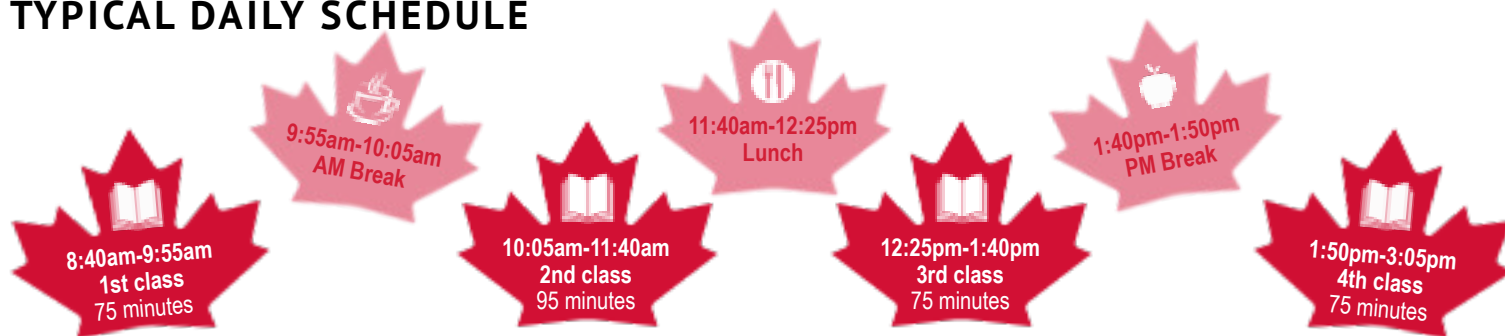
“

RMISP is the best international program ever! There were many cool activities that we did during the year and it was so much fun. The Rocky Rewards trip to Vancouver was awesome. It was a wonderful year!

Ginn from Thailand

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TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE



IMPORTANT DATES AND CANADIAN HOLIDAYS

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| JANUARY 1 New Years Day | FEBRUARY Family Day <i>Second Monday of February</i> | MARCH/APRIL Good Friday / Easter Monday <i>(Date Varies)</i> | MAY Victoria Day <i>Monday before May 25</i> | JULY 1 Canada Day |
| AUGUST BC Day <i>First Monday of August</i> | SEPTEMBER Labour Day <i>First Monday of September</i> | OCTOBER Thanksgiving <i>Second Monday of October</i> | NOVEMBER 11 Remembrance Day | DECEMBER 25/26 Christmas Day Boxing Day |



AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Students fly into the Canadian Rockies International Airport (YXC- Cranbrook) if they will be studying in Sparwood, Fernie, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Invermere, or Golden.

Students fly into Kelowna International Airport (YLW – Kelowna) if they will be studying in Revelstoke.

Students fly into Prince George International Airport (YXS - Prince George) if they will be studying in Vanderhoof or Burns Lake

Students will be met at their designated airport by their host family and an RMISP staff member.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

RMISP is structured for students aged 12-18 years of age who will be studying in Grades 7-12. Younger students may be admitted if they are living with their parents in our host communities.

We select our international students carefully with a focus on countries of diverse origin. The schools where RMISP places students have a small percentage (approximately 5%) of international students.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

BRITISH COLUMBIA

To Kamloops
and Vancouver

Highway 1

Revelstoke

Highway 95

Edgewater
Radium Hot Springs

Highway 93

Invermere

Fairmont
Hot Springs

Highway 93/95

Canal
Flats

Elkford

Sparwood

Kimberley

Highway
3/93

Cranbrook

Highway 3/95

Castlegar

Highway 3

To Kelowna
and Vancouver

To Spokane

To Kalispell

WASHINGTON

IDAHO

MONTANA

ALBERTA

To Edmonton

Highway 2

Banff

Highway 1

Calgary

To Medicine
Hat

Hwy 7

To Fort
MacLeod
and
Lethbridge

Highway 22

Highway 3

To Fort
MacLeod
and
Lethbridge



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INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

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