



Pacific Language Institute

# Welcome to Vancouver!

Welcome to PLI Vancouver. Study on Canada's Pacific Coast. Between the Pacific Ocean and the North Shore mountains you'll find the stunning waterfront city of Vancouver, consistently ranked in the world's top three for its high quality of living.

Just take a moment to stand and look at the sea and sky and then turn to wonder at the mountains that rise into view. Chosen host of the 2010 Winter Olympics, it is beautiful, clean and safe. Discover Vancouver's 7 beaches, stunning recreational parks and vibrant neighbourhoods such as Gastown and Granville Island.



Take advantage of the great climate to explore the city and the amazing countryside around it, and try out the local slopes at some of the world's finest ski resorts. For example, you can be at the top of the nearest ski slope from the school in just 40 minutes.

PLI Vancouver opened in 1988; the campus has 2 main buildings – both located in the heart of the vibrant city centre, minutes by foot from the main public transit Skytrain station – Burrard. All are just a block away from world class shopping on Robson Street and a 15-minute walk to the beaches and Stanley Park. You can rent bicycles and roller blades to go around the park, enjoy a game of volleyball and swim or sunbathe.



# School facilities

## Classrooms

There are 35 classrooms that are fully equipped with quality learning materials, comfortable study seating and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment.

## Multimedia and IT Centre

There are computers with free internet access in the multimedia centres along with a vast collection of learning software for students' use. The multimedia centre is a great place to utilize technology to maximize your learning.

## Library

The city library is a ten minute walk away from the school.

## Student Lounges

A large space for you to sit and enjoy free Wi-Fi on your laptop, have a coffee with your new friends, or check out the e-bulletin boards for excursions and current events. There are numerous food courts located near the school or you can bring your lunch and eat it in the student lounges.

## Sports Facilities

There are many sports and fitness centres nearby. As well, students can join a sports club for dance, boxing and other sporting activities.

## Activities/Social Program

From the school, students can easily explore all of Vancouver's attractions on foot or by skytrain/ bus. PLI Vancouver arranges a full schedule of excursions and activities, including day and night skiing at nearby Whistler Mountain and Grouse Mountain in winter and hiking or white water rafting in summer.

## Your first day

On the first day of your course you need to report to reception at the school at 8:30am. Your first day will be a Monday unless there is a national holiday on the Monday - in which case your first day will be Tuesday.

### Your course will begin with an all-day introduction, which will include:

- Welcome talk by the School Director
- Placement test and an interview with a teacher to determine your English level and the courses you require
- Information about your classes
- Information about courses
- Information about the school and surrounding area
- Overview of school activities and excursions
- Tour of the school facilities
- Completion of forms and collection of any outstanding payments

### Please bring the following with you:

- Passport
- Proof of Health Insurance
- Pen and paper for note-taking purposes

Following the intake, you will receive information about your class schedule, classroom number, study level and elective courses. You will be assigned the most appropriate class for your level of English. Your class times will be assigned after your test and you may be assigned morning classes or afternoon classes. This will depend on your level of English, your choice of classes and class availability.



## Local information

### Transport - Buses and Trains

The school is located in the city's downtown core, so there are many bus stops situated nearby. The skytrain station is 5 minutes away by foot. ces of worship in the surrounding areas of the school.

### Banks and Post Office

A bank is located 3 minutes by foot away from the school, and it is a 3 minute walk to your nearest post office.

### Restaurants and Cafés

There are many restaurants, cafes and food halls located within 5 minutes of the school.

### Department Stores and Supermarkets

Supermarkets, department stores, clothing shops, hair salons and major shops are located within a 5-minute walk of the school.

### Telephone and Internet Café

There are telephones available for students' use within the buildings. Internet cafes are located about 5-10 minutes away.

### Church / Mosque

There are numerous places of worship in the areas surrounding the school.

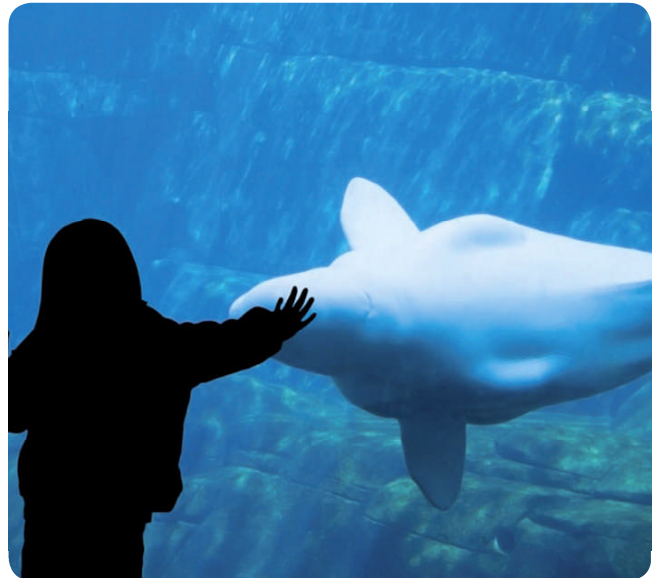
### Cost of Living

#### Approximate prices in CAD

Sandwiches: \$5.00  
 Salad bowl: \$5.00  
 Hot meal: \$6.00  
 Drinks: \$2.00  
 Tickets Cinema: \$13.00

#### Bus, Skytrain:

Book of 10 tickets:	1-month pass:
Zone 1 \$19.00	Zone 1 \$73.00
Zone 2 \$28.00	Zone 2 \$99.00
Zone 3 \$38.00	Zone 3 \$136.00



### Sample Activities Schedule

Please note that this is a sample program and activities may change. See a current activities schedule at: [www.mypli.ca](http://www.mypli.ca)

#### Week one

Monday	City walking tour
Tuesday	Trip to Vancouver Art Gallery
Wednesday	Ice skating
Thursday	Welcome dinner
Friday	Go to a concert
Saturday	Day trip to Victoria

#### Week two

Monday	Movie night
Tuesday	Dance lessons
Wednesday	See a Musical
Thursday	Watch a hockey game
Friday	2-3 day Rocky Mountains tour
Saturday	Day trip to Stanley Park



## Transfers

### PLI Vancouver Transfers

Students should fly to Vancouver International Airport. If the student has paid for the Transfer Service, a Greeter holding a PLI sign will meet them outside Customs to help with transportation, or to drive them to their homestay. If the student has any flight changes, misses a connecting flight, or needs help meeting the Transfer Service, they should call the school's emergency number at Burrard: 604-688-8330 for help, and be prepared to tell them their name, school name (PLI Vancouver) and location. Students should only accept a transfer from a Greeter with an official PLI logo.

### Independent Transfers

The Airporter is a bus that costs approximately \$15.00 to get downtown. Taxi service costs approximately \$30 - 60 (add 10- 15% tip) to get to your homestay or downtown. The drive averages about 45 minutes depending on where you live. Canada Line skytrain is \$3.50, and will get you straight into downtown in less than 25 minutes.

