



John Polanyi Collegiate Institute

ADDRESS: 640 Lawrence Ave West, North York, ON
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GRADE RANGE: 9 to 12

Interesting Feature

Rotman School of Management, U of T partnership

John Polanyi Collegiate Institute will offer to students the acclaimed Integrated Thinking I-Think leadership program developed by Rotman School of Management Dean, Roger Martin. Roger Martin is the author of the book *The Opposable Mind: How Successful Leaders Win Through Integrative Thinking*. More than ever, success in our global economy depends on an ability to wade through ambiguous challenges, managing difficult trade-offs with flexibility and creativity.

John Polanyi Collegiate Institute (JPCI) will be opening in September 2011 at 640 Lawrence Avenue West (Lawrence and Allen Road). JPCI will be a semestered school offering a full range of university, college and apprenticeship programs.

Other U of T links

The Rotman School of Management will mark the second major partnership between JPCI and the University of Toronto. More importantly is the name of the school itself. John Polanyi is a Nobel Laureate (Chemistry, 1986) and one of the world's most respected and honoured scientists as well as a distinguished and active Professor at the University of Toronto. He is also the Founding Chair of the Canadian Pugwash Institute which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1996 for their work internationally on nuclear disarmament. Few Canadians have contributed more to advancing science and social justice, or have been more recognized than Dr. Polanyi.



Specialist High Skills Major program

As part of the Specialist High Skills Major program the school will offer in the area of Justice Community and Safety Services a grade 11 and 12 Criminology and Forensics major that has been developed with the University of Toronto's Centre for Criminology.

SMaRT (Science, Math, and Robotics Tech)

The SMaRT program (Science, Mathematics, Robotics and Technology) is aimed at students with strengths and goals in these subjects. The program will provide enriched opportunities in inquiry, design and problem-solving.

Other Innovative Programs

JPCI will also offer other a number of additional academic and pathways programs to support student success.

Additional Features



Student Life - Where You Belong

An exciting part of high school is the connection of student life with academic life. To that end JPCI offers opportunities to students in all forms of leadership such as partnerships and certifications with the Rotman School of Management I-Think Program, UofT Criminology Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM), Humber College Environmental and Media Studies and our SMaRT enriched program. Sports for males and female teams have all areas covered with teams in football, basketball, volleyball, cricket, hockey, soccer, indoor soccer, swimming, badminton, table tennis and wrestling. The daily intra-sports programs also are buzzing in the gyms with lunchtime and after-school weight room workouts and league games to help increase health and fitness. The arts is an incredibly powerful pillar at JPCI with successful shows from our programs in Dance, Photography, Visual Arts, Music, Ceramics and our award winning actors and actresses in drama and singing! The JPCI auditorium complements all these shows. If students prefer to a smaller club-style atmosphere there are unlimited clubs available in areas such as computer technology, graphics, anime, and sewing and cooking!



What Sets Us Apart

Leadership comes in all forms but all have one fundamental purpose – to build skills in character. The extra component that JPCI has to offer is the number of powerful partners that leverage our students' character beyond the scope of the classroom and into the real world. Environmental sustainability and Character education go hand in hand through our partnership with PACT (participation, acknowledgement, commitment and transformation). The PACT "Grow to Learn" Urban Agriculture Initiative is a program designed to grow and donate organic produce to food banks across the GTA. The produce is grown at the school by youth and the school community at large. This program commenced in 2009 and is a natural outreach component of the original PACT Farm in the City program.

At JPCI the garden is partnered with the North York Harvest Food Bank which is housed within the site of JPCI. The garden is currently being built as a 25,000 square foot site with year round functions including a skating rink in the winter!



Parent and Community Engagement

A successful school has strong relationships with parents. To that end communication is key. Our School Improvement Plan (SIP) outlines our four key priorities in line with our Director's vision of improving schools.

At JPCI we believe in communicating our updates and initiatives through the school website, twitter, newsletters and parent information evenings.

Parent Council are also involved in various school-wide initiatives; e.g. Recognition Assemblies, Commencement, Evening Presentations, Coaching, Conferences/Workshops, Field Trips and Celebratory Events. Our School Improvement Plan involves Parent and Student Leaders. Parents are informed of all major events via "Synervoice" message system. There is productive Bi-annual Parent forums during "Parent Teacher Nights" where all curricular and co-curricular committee leaders providing key information to parents.



TDSB - Better Schools. Brighter Futures

Imagine a TDSB where all schools share a common core set of characteristics. They are community-driven and focused on teaching and learning. Students and parents have a wide variety of opportunities and there are enough students in every school to increase program choices.

Imagine there is a clear focus on achieving student success and every student is engaged, has a voice, access to a caring adult and the opportunity to develop their full potential.

The Director of Education, Chris Spence has developed a Vision of Hope to help guide the TDSB to an education system like this one. Three priority areas will help guide this vision:

- student achievement
- parent and community engagement
- financial stability

Among our first steps that we are taking is re-creating our schools and that's where Better Schools Brighter Futures comes in. To learn more visit <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/brighterfutures>



Contact Information

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Please visit us at <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/schools/index.asp?schno=8888&schoolid=4012>