



Southern Ontario Collegiate

Guidance Newsletter

Molly Mignault, Guidance Counsellor

October 2021

With the semester well underway it is time for another guidance update. October is here which serves a reminder that the cooler weather is upon us and yes, winter is coming. Make sure to take the time to get adequate winter boots and jackets. If you are unsure of what to buy, ask a fellow student who has experienced Canadian winter, or feel free to speak with a teacher.

University Applications

I would like to take this time to remind everyone that University applications begin October 14, 2021. The OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website will open this day, and students are able to apply starting that day. I will be sending out more information about university applications shortly. I urge all students to research programs before applying to ensure that you are aware of the prerequisites, grade requirements and supplementary program requirements. Our goal is to have all students to complete their applications by December 9, 2021. Please use this website for information:

<https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/>. If you are looking to apply to schools outside of Ontario, please use the school's website for the most accurate information.

University Information Sessions

- Huron @ Western University—October 18th @ 12:30
- University of Ottawa—October 28 @ 9am
- Lakehead—November 2 @ 12:30pm
- Ryerson University—November 10 @ 10am

Midterms

Midterms are coming up! October 14 & 15 are your midterm exams. Please see your teachers soon if you require any help or have any concerns. Use midterms as a time to reflect, if your grades are not where they should be, speak to your teachers, and ask for help if you need it. Do not wait until the last minute.

Scholarships

If you are applying to college/university it is time to start researching scholarships. Most entrance scholarships automatically distributed by universities are grade based, take time to research these. Many scholarships require supplementary applications, take the time to research these. Scholarship deadlines are not flexible. Please use this website to search for Canadian Scholarships: <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/>

Volunteer Hours

All onsite students must complete volunteer hours as required by the Ministry of Education. Onsite students graduating in December who have yet to complete their volunteer requirement need to see guidance promptly.

YWCA Women's Hygiene Products Campaign

This year at Southern Ontario Collegiate we are participating in a donation drive for women's hygiene products in partnership with the YWCA of Hamilton. Students and staff are participating in this campaign through both generous donations and volunteering their time.

Important dates

- Scenic Caves Blue Mountain Field Trip—October 6, 2021
- Thanksgiving Feast October 8, 2021. Shortened day.
- Thanksgiving Monday October 11—No school
- Ontario University Fair—October 26, 2021: <https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/>

Land Acknowledgement

Southern Ontario Collegiate is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas and it is still home to many Indigenous people. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.