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Fred Olynyk Bursary Essay

What would make you want to continue living in Revelstoke as an adult and/or what would make you want to live somewhere else?

There are many things that make me want to come back to Revelstoke after I am finished university such as: the scenery, the community, my family history, and so much more.

We are surrounded by everything beautiful the earth has blessed us with all in the comfort of our own back yards. In every direction we look, there are beautiful snow kissed mountains that fill the horizon, the fresh air of all the trees that surround us produce. We also have the most vertical mountain drop in all of North America which we get to ski every winter season.

The downtown culture is amazing, with so many local stores and coffee shops where only Revelstoke can offer you the sweet taste of cozy from the wooden benches at the Modern Café. The grizzly bears that welcome our visitors right into the plaza of downtown Revelstoke which has live music every night in the summer which is surrounded with home made gelato and frozen yogurt. Revelstoke is so small that everything is within walking distance, which is so satisfying to see people who care about the earth walking, where others are destroying mother nature day after day. We have the best, freshest, drinkable tap water that seeps down from our mountain glaciers.

My family has lived in Revelstoke for many generations, my grandparents, parents, and myself were born and raised all in this precious place they will forever call home. Their stories of how a hospital got turned into a grocery store, how the house they first owned when they got married is now owned by a lovely couple who just said "I Do" and how a highway turned into a beautiful place to go for a walk beside the Columbia River will stay with me forever and I hope to pass the stories down many generations.

Revelstoke's population is growing more and more each month, making homes hard to find, which cause our city to expand just a little bit more when property is bought, trees and knocked down, and a new house is built. I will miss the small town where just about everybody knows everybody. I hope Revelstoke stays small and beautiful forever so that my kids and grandkids can climb the same mountains I have climbed and walk the same hugging sidewalks I have walked right in the downtown heart of Revelstoke.