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## Introducing PCU-WHS's Summer Student

PCU-WHS was fortunate to have been approved for the University to hire a summer student for 2018 under the Federal Government's Canada Summer Jobs Program. We are most pleased to introduce Cassandra in this short release:

*Hello, my name is Cassandra! As the Curriculum Assistant to Instructional Designer and Curriculum Coordinator Aaron Panych, I am thrilled to be working alongside the PCU-WHS team this summer. Following my graduation from the University of Victoria this Spring, I was beyond grateful to find a position that allowed me to not only gain experience within a post-secondary setting but also to apply the knowledge and skills I had matured throughout my undergraduate studies. After my first week at PCU-WHS, I could not believe the amount of fulfillment that I was experiencing. The skills and requirements vital to this position were of the exact nature I had been searching and hoping for: researching, academic writing, editing, course mapping, and compiling data. My time with the University so far has been both challenging and rewarding, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to advance my skills and give back to this fine academic establishment.*

*Throughout my childhood and young adult years, I was fortunate enough to grow up in Sooke, a small town on southern Vancouver Island, where I was constantly immersed in the stunning nature of our coastal forests and oceans. Over the years, I have explored and hiked Vancouver Island and its surrounding areas as much as humanly (and economically) possible. With this influence, I found myself at the University of Victoria studying within the Department of Geography. My post-secondary education has helped me to develop invaluable skills for approaching this prosperous, information-rich world, and it has fostered my critical problem solving ability and my awareness of my own values and biases. As the first person to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in my family, I feel so blessed to have had the choice to obtain a higher education. With this, I will be returning to university full time in pursuit of a Master's degree for the 2018-2019 Academic Year. I am motivated to combine my technical skills in Geomatics and scientific writing along with my passion for helping others and contributing to vital research in conservation and resource management.*

*During my tasks so far at PCU-WHS, my eyes have been opened to the world of disability management and work health sciences. I am constantly introduced to and reminded of the critical importance that these fields hold in each one of our lives. It has been my pleasure to immerse myself in the knowledge and resources that this institution has to offer, and I cannot thank the University enough for providing me with the option to employ and progress my writing and research skills in between my studies. The staff and faculty here continue to inspire and motivate me to contribute to my local community and to global academic efforts. As I have already thoroughly enjoyed my time working in Port Alberni so far, I am eager to find out what other projects await my desk for the rest of the summer.*



Cassandra Van Eyk