

# WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY

*...your community high school since 1966*



June 2017

## Welland Centennial Secondary School

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## Stay Connected .....

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## FIRST OF ITS KIND



Welland Centennial opened its doors to over 200 students from eight south Niagara high schools to attend the LGBTQ+ Healthy Living Conference in May. Students had the opportunity to talk to representatives from several community agencies that offer support to the LGBTQ+ community, but the highlight of the conference was transgender speaker, Michael Sherman, who spoke about his journey. Committee member **Hope Overholt** said she hopes his talk will help anyone who is grappling with their identity. Congratulations to **Riley Kennedy** and his committee for organizing this ground-breaking event which was the first of its kind in Welland.

## BROCK UNIVERSITY - NIAGARA PRINCIPAL'S SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Representatives from Brock University, along with their mascot the badger, came to Welland Centennial to present Grade 12 students **Dario Smagata** and **Wynne Reichheld** with the Brock University - Niagara Principal's Scholarship. This award is given annually to two graduating students who will be attending university, have excellent grades, and are engaged in their community and school. Congratulations!

## PROVINCIAL GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

On Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Provincial Skills Competitions were held in Toronto where over 20,000 people came to watch students compete for gold, silver and bronze medals in Canada's largest skilled trade and technology competition. On Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, medals were presented at the Toronto Congress Centre and Centennial's own **Stephen Koiter** and **Jacob Naumann** were announced as the overall winners and gold medal recipients in the fiercely competitive team carpentry competition where 53 teams representing school boards from all over Ontario battled.



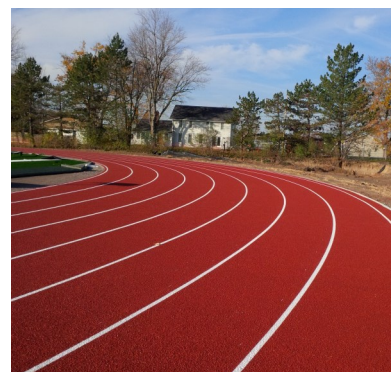
They also took part in a new Guinness World Records entry with the most people hammering in a nail at the same time. A huge CONGRATULATIONS to Stephen and Jacob for representing not only Centennial, but all of the DSBN in the very competitive Provincial Skills Competitions.

## MAJOR INVESTMENT IN CENTENNIAL



The track and field are being installed by the same company that installed the track and field for the Pan American Games in Toronto. The new facility will also include a steeple chase, high jump, long & triple jump, discus, javelin, and pole vault. It all adds up to a wonderful community resource.

The DSBN is investing nearly \$5 million in WCSS over the summer. Improvements include a new heating & ventilation system, a new roof, and, of course, our brand new all-weather field with rubberized track!





# WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Page 2

## COUGARS IN THE WILD!



Students enrolled in the SHSM Health & Wellness Program experienced a day of risk-taking, leadership and excitement while zip-lining and rope-walking at the WildPlay Element Park in Niagara Falls.



Grade 10 Science students had the electromagnetic spectrum and applications of light and optics brought to life on their field trip to play laser tag at Laser Quest in Oakville.



Welland Centennial Secondary School  
May 18, 2017

01-Oakville



Senior Math and Physics students put the laws of physics into practice while riding the 'Leviathan' at Canada's Wonderland.

## A Beautiful Day for CougarFest '17



WCSS baseball fans travelled to the Rogers Centre in May to see the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Cincinnati Reds 5 to 4. Great game and great trip!





# WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Page 3

## WCSS STUDENT SPEAKS OUT



Grade 9 student **Phoenix Norris** recently attended the annual Women Economic Forum in New Delhi, India. Phoenix delivered a presentation on the importance of self-confidence in youth and the long-term effects of a positive self-concept versus a negative self-concept. She has also been approached by the United Nations about becoming a Youth Delegate representing Canada in youth matters at the United Nations.



In May, Centennial's Cultural Club visited the Welland Canal Museum at Lock 3 and enjoyed a very Canadian lunch at Smoke's Poutinerie!

Join the Cultural Club next year to meet new people and expand your cultural horizons.

## MATH STUDENTS COMPETE AT GUELPH



Senior Math & Science Students participated in a variety of events at this year's Math & Science Competition at Guelph University, including Math, Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics. It was a good problem-solving experience, as well as a good introduction to the University of Guelph and its campus. Special thanks go out to **John Breton, Jarred Wogan** and **Sammi Wong** for an amazing day.

## ANOTHER CO-OP SUCCESS STORY



We have had a busy and rewarding semester in the cooperative education department here at Centennial. One of our many success stories this past semester is the acceptance of **Alex Richer** into the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program.

As an apprentice at Taris on the Water restaurant, Alex is gaining on-the-job training, accumulating apprenticeable hours and qualifying for a variety of financial incentives. Alex is photographed here with his sponsor, Head Chef, and Centennial alumnus, Kean Sagloski.

Congratulations and best of luck, Alex!

WCSS would also like to thank all our co-op partners for the opportunities they provide to our students.



Emmee VanHelvert  
and  
Rhianon Schaub

Students in Grade 12 Writer's Craft visited Gordon Public School's Kindergarten classes in late May as part of their unit on children's literature. Our Cougars wrote and illustrated their own children's books, and had the chance to share their stories with a young audience. Many thanks to the Gordon ELKP team for kindly welcoming us!

**BLUE, ORANGE, WHITE...action!**

## GET CERTIFIED AND GET AHEAD...WCSS AMONG THE TOP 2 SCHOOLS IN CANADA!

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# WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Page 4

## WCSS TEAMS ARE ON THE BALL



WCSS's Ball Hockey Teams excelled at the annual tournament held in May. The Girls' Team was awesome, going 2-2. Congratulations to the Senior Boys' Team who went undefeated in 4 games and took home the gold. The Junior Boys' Team took home the silver. Overall a great day for Centennial hockey!

The WCSS Girls' Rugby Team competed in the **3rd Annual Prom Dress Tournament** at the Niagara Rugby Club in Thorold. This tournament is run every year as a fun end to a tough scheduled season.

Great Work Girls!



## DRAMA UPDATE & ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to the cast & crew of Centennial's original production, **Sisters In Spirit**, for being one of the 12 plays featured in the **2017 Sears Drama Festival Provincial Showcase**. The Sisters In Spirit Tour reached over 2,000 students, and was highlighted by performances on the professional stage at the Sanderson Centre (Brantford), and the Six Nations Community Centre.

Preparations have already begun for next year's musical, **Bring It On!**, written and composed by the creator of the Broadway smash, **Hamilton**, Lin-Manuel Miranda. The Arts Department eagerly awaits to see all interested students at our vocal & dance workshops in September, and auditions in late-October.

Bravo to all!



The one sunny day of a short and rainy season.

Welland Centennial staff and students say a fond farewell and best wishes to the school's Library Technician, **Lorraine Saunders**, who is retiring after 7 years in Cougar Country.



Goodbye & Best Wishes to Head Custodian, **Connie Carl**.



Mr. Enns, Mr. MacGregor, Ms. Orosz and Mrs. Thompson have taken on new assignments and we wish them well.

50 Centennial Arts students and their teachers gathered at the Strawberry Fields Memorial in Central Park on May 18, the first of four exciting days in Manhattan. Dedicated to The Beatles' John Lennon, the word 'Imagine' in the middle of the mosaic captures the essence of their trip and the message of compassion, tolerance, and understanding, that the Arts department endeavours to instill in their students.