# Planning & Process: Post-Secondary

Presented by Albert Chieng, School Counsellor

## What do I want to do? Which path is best for me?

- If you are unsure, you are not alone!
- Research YOU:
  - Interest inventories, aptitude tests, personality tests, etc....
  - Online resources, including:
    - ► ALIS Alberta Learning Information Service
    - Check the internet for free personality assessments
    - Students can access myBlueprint from the Western Website under Culture & Environment /Student Services/Career Centre
    - Talk to family & friends insights about you?

### Find Your Program

- Research which institutions have what interests you
- Check the entrance requirements
- Check the tuition fees
- Check the application dates and deadlines
- Ensure you have initiated your myPass Account
  - Students need their Alberta Student Number (ASN) to register for myPass

### Apply

- Most applications open in October
  - Alberta: Apply Alberta
    - Specific Post-Secondary Institutions are listed: Universities, Colleges, Technical Institutes (e.g., SAIT, NAIT)
  - Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC)
    - May apply for 3 programs
    - **►**Fee: \$156
    - ► Additional programs \$50 each

#### Dates & deadlines...

- deadlines vary
  - ►e.g., U of Calgary applications open October 1 & close March 1
  - Mount Royal University opens October 1,
    - but has deadlines for specific applications: e.g., Feb 1 for Nursing, Interior Design, Education, & Midwifery
    - other programs accept applications on an ongoing basis until programs are full (or until Aug 1)

## University Programs: Required Courses

- Generally, five 30-level courses are required (ELA 30-1 always)
- In Alberta many programs require 4, 30-level academic courses & 1 option course
- Outside of Alberta, some require 5 academic grade 12 subjects
- Program-dependent
  - E.g., Math 30-2 is generally accepted for Arts, Social Sciences, & Fine Arts
  - Sciences, Engineering, Mathematics more restrictive:
    - ►e.g., Engineering: Math 30-1, Math 31, Physics 30, Chemistry 30 & English 30-1

## College & Tech Institutions: Required Courses

- Course requirements differ depending on specific program
- **■** E.g., SAIT wide variety of programs
  - from Certificates, to 2-year Diplomas, to 4-year Bachelor Degrees
  - ■So, course requirements vary widely:
    - from English 10 and Math 10 (e.g., Professional Cooking Program) to 5-30 level courses, including English 30-1, to do the 4-yr Bachelor of Business Administration Program
- Moral of the story: check course requirements carefully

#### Scholarships & Awards

- Institutions have their own Scholarships & Awards
  - Some are automatic (e.g., entrance awards)
  - Some require an application (e.g., U of C's Prestige Awards, Dec. 1 deadline)
- ► Many Scholarship opportunities online, e.g.:
  - scholartree.ca;
  - scholarshipscanada.com;
  - studentaid.alberta.ca ...

### Student Services Support

- Meet with your counsellor
  - Specific institution information
  - Program advising
  - Assistance deciphering application requirements
  - Scholarship application guidance
  - Counsellors in Grade 12 classes with handout and short presentation between Oct. 2-13

### Fairs, Open Houses, and Presentations

- Study and Go Abroad Fair BMO Centre September 27 2:00 6:00 register on website
- In-Province University/College Fair at Western October 31, Periods 1 & 2, Grade 11 & 12 classes will have an opportunity to meet various postsecondary representatives from Alberta Institutions
- Out-of-Province Post-Secondary Fair October 24, 6:00 pm 8:00 pm, students and parents will have the opportunity to meet with various university representatives from across Canada
- Individual university presentations at Western over the next couple of months – students need to be checking daily bulletin e.g., U of C – Oct. 12, afterschool
- Universities will also host their own virtual events check university websites
- U of C Open House Oct 28; SAIT Open House Nov. 3 & 4; MRU Open House Oct 21; Ambrose University Oct 21 & St. Mary's University Oct 14

### Support on Western's Website...

- WCHS Grade 12 Graduation Information
- Scholarships websites list and links
- 5 Steps to Winning Scholarships
- Link to ALIS: excellent site for career exploration & information, and for scholarships & loan information