

- **What is Encounters with Canada?**

Encounters with Canada is a one-week program of Canadian studies held at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa. Its objective is to bring young Canadians from different backgrounds and regions together in order to give them an opportunity to learn about one another, to discover their country through each other and to gain a better understanding of Canadian institutions. **Encounters with Canada is the largest youth forum in Canada.**

- **What programs are offered?**

The week is divided into two parts:

(1) first part of the week focuses on Canadian Institutes and includes a visit to Parliament, the Senate and guided tours of the National Capital Region.

(2) second part of the week focuses around 12 sub-themes (bold themes offered only once)...

- **Canada Remembers (November 6 - 12, 2011)**
- **Royal Canadian Mounted Police (February 19 – 25, 2012)**
- **Vimy: Canada's Coming of Age (April 8 – 14, 2012)**
- Sports and Fitness
- Arts and Culture
- Medicine and Health
- Science and Technology
- **Law (Nov. 27 – Dec. 3, 2011)**
- **Journalism and Communications (Nov. 20 – 26, 2011)**
- **Canadian Politics (Mar. 25 – 31, 2012)**
- International Affairs
- **Environment and Ecology (Apr. 29 – May 5, 2012)**



- **How much does it cost?**

The registration fee for the 2010-2011 program year is \$675 per student. However, our provincial government will contribute \$175 per student. Therefore, **the total cost is \$500 per student.** Each student can either obtain sponsors and/or pay the fee themselves. At MVHS, we have a number of sponsors each year that will help offset the cost for all participants.

- **How can I get selected?**

The student must be **14 – 17 years old** when they attend. Students that attend the program should meet the following criteria for selection...

- have an interest in the particular themes as well as an interest in Canadian studies.
- be an active, responsible participant in the various conferences, seminars, presentations, group discussion and tours.
- be responsive to the centre's goal of "developing a spirit of understanding and brotherhood among Canadians of all backgrounds".
- be committed to academic studies.
- be able to catch up on work missed at school during their week in Ottawa.
- be good ambassadors for their school, community and the province.
- be able to travel independently.

Each applicant must pass in the following documents into Mr. A. Hallihan by **Wednesday, May 11th**:

(1) a current resume

(2) a letter of intentions addressed to Mr. A. Hallihan that must clearly answer each of the following questions...

- What is your theme choice and how is the theme important to you?
- What skills and characteristics will allow you to be successful in group work situations?
- How can you be a good ambassador for your school, community and province from this experience?
- How do you intend to stay on top of your academics after missing one week of school?

After the submission of these documents, a third party from within the community will analyze the documents and select the **best 8 candidates** based upon their application. Only the selected students will be notified and then the registration process will begin. However, there will be an ordered waiting list developed from all the applications with the possibility of obtaining extra seats as the school year progresses.