

MEET TODAY'S VIC HIGH STUDENTS

We are delighted by the stories we read and hear about Vic High today, its programs and its accomplishments. Keith McCallion (Principal 1989-1994) recently had the pleasure of meeting with three students and finding out more about them and their busy lives. Here are profiles of Angela, Tianna and Deanna, today's Vic High students.

ANGELA ADAMSON

Angela is a grade 12 honour roll student (4.5 GPA) who attended Sir James Douglas Elementary and Central Middle School before enrolling at Vic High. Because of her dedication to scholastics, she was awarded the Passport to Education Bursary in grades 10 and 11. Angela's mother Sharon (Dhillon) graduated from Vic High in 1978. Angela plans to attend UVic to pursue studies in the Faculty of Business.

Angela's teachers describe her as "highly motivated with a strong work ethic". In school, Angela is involved with the Environment Club, the Youth Supporting the Community Club, the Yearbook Committee, the dance program and choir. She is also on the Vic High volleyball and rowing teams. She has a strong interest in graphics and web design and is creating Vic High's career website. Outside of school, Angela has a passion for volunteering. She has been involved with several non-profit organizations over the years: the United Way of Greater Victoria, YOUCAN Canada, and the City of Victoria Youth Council. Angela has also been actively involved with Girl Guides of Canada since she was 9 years old. Angela says the teacher who inspired her most is Allen Govender at Sir James Douglas because of "he was strict but fun too". She feels that the greatest qualities about Vic High are the school's acceptance of diversity and its welcoming, caring people.

TIANNA METZGER

Tianna is a 19 year old student who will graduate in June. She lives in Langford with her 14 month old son, Dominic. Tianna's day starts early; she and Dominic have breakfast together then she drives them in her 1994 Dodge Caravan to the Girls' Alternative Program (GAP) on Richmond Road. Dominic goes to daycare while Tianna attends First Nations History 12. At 11:30 am, she sees him again for half an hour before driving to Vic High where she is enrolled in Career Preparation Automotive 11 and 12 with teacher Mike Grew. She has always been interested in cars and says "I've learned so much in this course from Mr. Grew, a great teacher". Mr. Grew reports that Tianna is always in the shop during the lunch hour doing extra work and learning by doing.

Tianna will attend Camosun College next year and one day will open her own automotive repair shop. After Vic High classes are finished, she returns to GAP,

picks up Dominic and is home by 4 o'clock. She plays with her son, makes dinner for around 5 pm, bathes Dominic and puts him to bed. Then she studies until around 11:30 pm or midnight. (Dominic can still wake up a couple of times during the night, but she gets "enough sleep".) Tianna would like alumni to know that she works very hard on her studies and is "very proud of the way I take care of my son". She attended Wishart Elementary, Dunsmuir Junior High, Esquimalt High and Belmont High before enrolling at Vic High in Career Prep Automotive. Hopefully, she'll keep that '94 Caravan going for many more years.

DEANNA REID

Deanna is a grade 11 student who attended Sir James Douglas and Central Middle School before arriving at Vic High. Deanna's mother, Deborah, is one of the wonderful and capable secretarial staff who works in the school's office. Her father, Robert Reid (class of '76), Grandmother, Patricia Smith (class of '46) and Great Grand, Uncle Doug Creech all attended Vic High before her. She has a younger sister, Chelsea, who attends Oak Bay High. Deanna has been an honour roll student since Grade 9. With a 5.0 GPA this term, she is always striving to do her best. In December 2007, Deanna was the recipient of the \$1000 Save On Foods Amazing Kids Scholarship. Vic High has recognized her accomplishments by awarding her service awards and a trophy. She is involved as a photo editor of this year's Camosun and is the grade 11 representative on Student Council. For the past three years, she has been an active participant in the Leadership Program and is the manager of the Titans Rugby Team. Assisting and being a school ambassador with the School District 61's International Student Program is just one of the ways she welcomes new students.

Outside of school, Deanna is a "Pedal Pusher" at Glengarry Hospital, plays soccer for Bays United and works at Starbucks. Giving back to the community is important to Deanna. She has with many other groups and organizations, including at the FIFA U20 World Championships last summer. This dynamo "loves to lead, loves to plan" and will travel after graduating in 2009. Her future plans include becoming an elementary school teacher. Deanna says the best thing about Vic High is its diversity and acceptance of others. She is dedicated and will stand up for what is important. The person who has inspired Deanna the most is her mum, Deborah.