



March, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Vancouver Technical School is developing a School Wellness Initiative aimed at enhancing the social-emotional health of the school community. To track the effectiveness of the Wellness Initiative, we are inviting all students in Grades 8 – 12 at Van Tech to take part in a survey.

This project is funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research. We have carried out the survey for the past 3 years. This is the last year. Participation is voluntary. Your adolescent may choose whether or not to take part. We will be contacting you annually to see if your adolescent would like to complete the survey again. We will use the results to help Van Tech know if the social-emotional health of the community is improving or needs more work.

The survey takes about 30-40 minutes. Students will fill it the survey by themselves. Question topics include feelings about social and emotional well-being, school, and family.

The survey is confidential. Only the research team will have access to the surveys. All copies of the survey will be kept in a locked filing cabinet in an office at UBC. The information will be input into a computer file for analysis of the data. Computer files will be kept on a computer in an office at UBC. The computer and all electronic files will be password-protected. You will not be identified by name in any reports of the completed study.

You or your adolescent will not benefit directly from taking part. We do not think there is anything in this study that could harm or be bad for your adolescent.

The main study findings will be used to develop strategies for improving the social-emotional well-being of the Van Tech School community. The findings will also be published in academic journal articles.

If you have any questions or would like further information about this study, you may contact Sheila Marshall (604) 822-5672 or Elizabeth Saewyc (604) 822-7505. If you have any complaints about your adolescent's treatment as a research participant you may contact the Research Participant Complaint Line at the University of British Columbia's Office of Research Services at 604-822-8598, or toll free at 1-877- 822-8598.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Principal Investigator: Sheila K. Marshall, Ph.D.
School of Social Work / Division of Adolescent
Health and Medicine

Co-Investigator: Elizabeth Saewyc, PhD, RN
School of Nursing / Division of Adolescent
Health and Medicine