



SELC CANADA

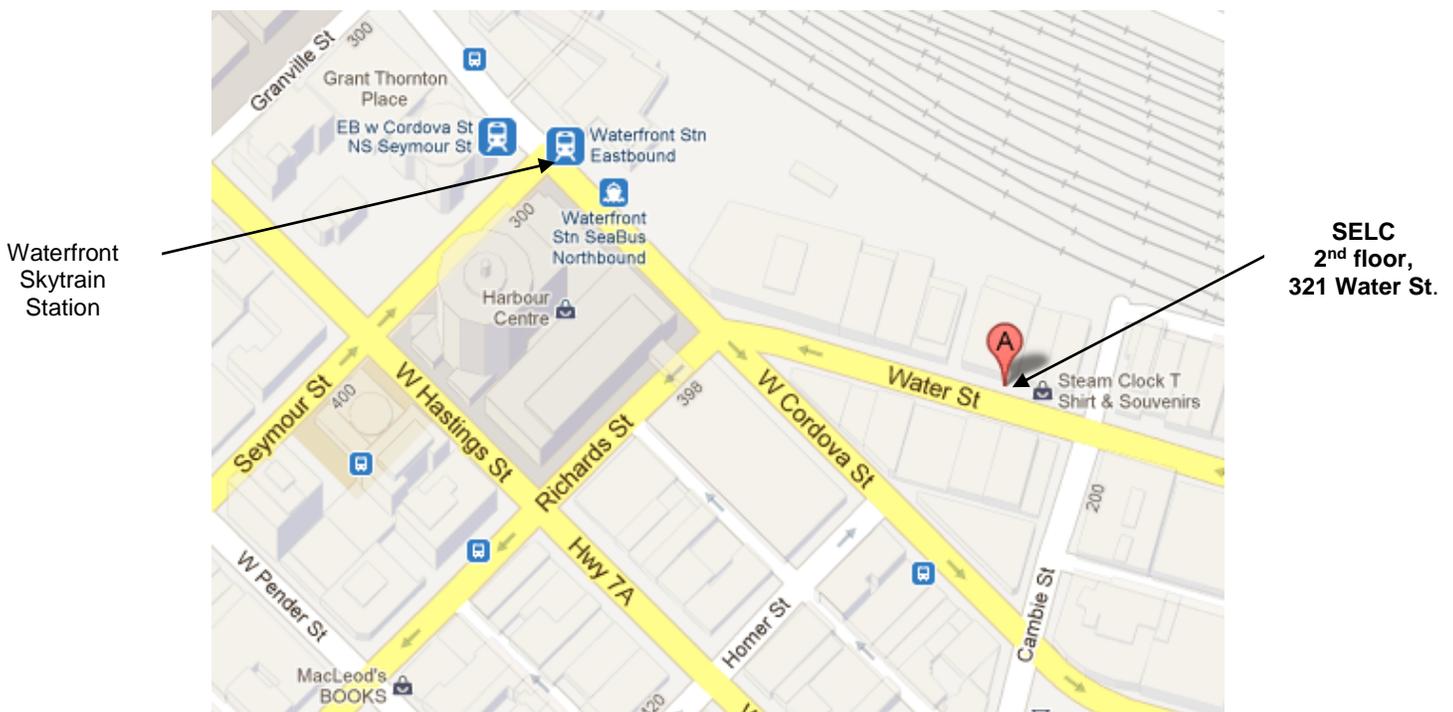
PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION

YOUR FIRST DAY AT SELC

How do I get to SELC?

SELC is located at 321 Water Street on the 2nd floor. **Please plan to be at the school at 8:45am on your first day.**

If you arrive at Waterfront Station, walk left on Water Street for approximately 2 minutes until you reach 321 Hudson House. Take the elevator or stairs to the second floor. If you have trouble finding the school, please call us at 604-639-9075 for assistance.



What to bring on your first day?

- ✓ **Passport** - please bring your Passport on your first day together with your study and work permits (if applicable). We will photocopy these documents and keep them in your file.
- ✓ **Proof of Medical Insurance** – Health care is very expensive in Canada. You must have valid Medical Insurance throughout the duration of your Program. You are required to bring proof of your Medical insurance on your first day of class. If you purchased Medical Insurance through SELC we will provide you with your insurance papers on your first day.



TIMETABLE FOR YOUR FIRST DAY

Please note that times after 8:45am arrival may vary.

8:45am Arrive at SELC. You should **bring your passport, study and work permits (if applicable), and a copy of your medical insurance during your entire study period** (if you purchased it outside the school).

***Note** You should pay any fees that you have not yet paid at this time. You can pay at Student Reception.

9:00am **SELC Placement Test** - you will meet Anna and/or Navid for an oral assessment. Following your oral assessment you will be given a written exam. This is to see what your English level is and helps to determine which class you will join.

9:30am **Orientation** - meeting where you will receive an information booklet about SELC, learn more about SELC policies and procedures then your sign contract.

12:00pm **Tour of the School** - you will meet our Activity Coordinator, Kathy, who will give you a tour of the school, find out about our activities and meet our activity partners.

1:00pm **Students in the ESL program** will attend their first class this day. Generally your class will begin at 1:00pm.

Second day

8:50 You will find your name, class and room number on a list in the lounge

9:00 **Class begins.** You will meet your teacher and other students in your class.

Class Schedule

1st Class	9:00 am to 10:30 am	3rd Class	1:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Break	10:30 am to 10:45 am	Break	2:00 pm to 2:15 pm
2nd Class	10:45 am to 12:15 pm	4th Class	2:15 pm to 3:15 pm
Lunch Break	12:15 pm to 1:00pm	After 3:15pm you can check our Activity schedule!	

Like us on Facebook!



Welcome to SELC Vancouver's Facebook!

Like us on facebook to learn about the school, activities, events in Vancouver, see pictures, videos, etc!

If you have any pictures you would like us to post, please send them to info@selc-canada.ca



SELC Vancouver Facebook :

<https://www.facebook.com/SelcVancouver>

LIVING IN VANCOUVER

How much does it cost to live in Vancouver?

After you have paid for your accommodation and tuition fees you will need enough money for lunch and transport each day.

You can buy a typical Canadian sandwich for \$6 - 8, and an evening meal for \$12 - \$30. You will also need spending money for entertainment. In total, you should plan to have access to at least CAD \$200 per week.



What's the weather like in Vancouver?

- Spring in Vancouver

Spring usually comes early, with February seeing the arrival of tulips and temperatures on average staying above 0°C (32°F). Wet weather is the norm, so pack water-resistant gear and an umbrella.

- Summer in Vancouver

Summer in Vancouver is amazing! We enjoy relatively moderate weather and the days are full of sun and warmth. Daytime temperatures run around the 20's in Celsius (high 70's in Fahrenheit).

- Autumn in Vancouver

The weather is generally pleasant during the autumn months (September to November) temperatures remain in the 4-10 °C (40's°F).

- Winter in Vancouver

We see little snow in the city during the winter, but it does get wet, with large amounts of precipitation in the form of rain and slush. It is important to bring an umbrella, coat and warm clothes. But, keep in mind that it can also be sunny in winter! Nearby Whistler and the local mountains (Cypress, Grouse, and Seymour) however, get loads of snow and are a major ski destination from December through April.

This chart of average maximum and minimum temperatures may help you (degrees celsius).

MONTH	MIN.	MAX.
January	0	6
February	1	8
March	4	13
April	5	13
May	8	16
June	11	19
July	13	22
August	13	23
September	10	18
October	6	14
November	3	9
December	1	6



Public Transportation in Vancouver

Greater Vancouver is divided into zones. Transportation prices vary on each zone:

Zone 1: Yellow (\$2.95)

Zone 2: Red (\$4.20)

Zone 3: Green (\$5.70)



There are 3 methods of public transport: Bus, Skytrain and Sea Bus.



To plan a trip go to www.translink.ca and click on Trip planner

A regular ticket will cost you \$2.95 for any one of the 3 transit services available and this is valid for only one zone (except busses). If you wish to travel to more than one zone, you will pay extra for a ticket.

You need correct change (All Zones: \$2.95) on all buses (tickets are also available at Sky train and Sea bus stations) and when you pay you need to get a proof of purchase ticket. This is valid for 90 minutes and can be inserted into any bus meter box or used to travel on the Skytrain or Sea Bus until the time indicated on the ticket.

*Weekdays after 6:30pm and all day Saturday, Sunday and Holidays tickets are \$2.95 (all zones)

When using the Vancouver Transit System, there are a few options available to save some money:

- **Monthly Pass:** At the beginning of each month, we recommend that you buy a monthly pass using a Compass Card. This pass allows you *unlimited travel* on any of the transit services for one month. These passes cost \$95-\$174 depending on your zone. Note that a 1 zone pass will only allow you to travel within Zone 1. If you move to another zone you will be charged extra.



- Ask the bus driver if you are ever unsure about how many zones you are travelling. Bus drivers here are very knowledgeable and helpful. They can answer most of the questions that you might have.

HOMESTAY INFORMATION

If you have booked a SELC homestay, please read this section carefully.

We have arranged accommodation for you with a Canadian household.

Here is some information we think will help you and your homestay household to understand each other.

SMILE!

Most important. Be friendly and smile when your host family talks to you.

BE POLITE

Say “please” and “thank you” when asking for or receiving anything.

FOOD

Half Board

You will receive breakfast and dinner each day. You will have to make your own arrangements about lunch during the week and on weekends.

Full Board

You will receive breakfast, lunch and dinner each day.

Your meals will be the same as for the rest of the household. The diet of the family may be very different from your usual diet. Tell your host what type of foods you like and they may be able to include these in the family meals.

MEALTIMES

You must be home at the usual mealtime for the family. If you know that you will be late or will not be home for meals, you should tell your host family in advance.

KEEP YOUR ROOM TIDY

You will be treated as a guest of your homestay. In Canada guests keep their own rooms tidy and usually offer to help their hosts clean up after meals and in other small ways.

Women in Canada do not do all the housework and there are usually no servants in Canadian homes. Your accommodation does not include such personal services. These are available in hotels and private residences. We can arrange accommodation for you if this is what you require.



BATHROOMS

Try to limit your time in the bathroom to 15 minutes. Please also remember that the custom in Canada is to wash oneself inside the bath/shower area so that no water or soap goes onto the floor.

TELEPHONE

Ask permission to use the telephone. Restrict your calls to a reasonable length and number. The cost of outgoing calls is not included in your accommodation. You should make arrangements with your host family to pay for your own calls. You should pay promptly for long distance calls.

WHEN YOU BRING FRIENDS HOME

Ask permission before you bring friends to your host's home and be sure that they do not behave noisily.

LAUNDRY

In most homes there is an automatic washing machine. If your host family does not have a washing machine, ask where the nearest laundry is.

SMOKERS

Many Canadian families dislike smoking in their homes. Ask your host family if you can smoke outside.

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

Your accommodation has been arranged for the time you asked on your enrolment form. If you want to stay with your homestay for a longer time you should tell the marketing department in the first 7 days of your stay. It may be possible for us to arrange for this to happen. If not, you may have to leave when the next student arrives.

QUESTIONS

If you have any matters about your homestay which you would like to discuss, please arrange to see the marketing department at SELC during class breaks.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

If you requested airport pick up, please look up for your name written on a sign in the greeting area of the Vancouver International Airport. Do not leave the airport. If there are any flight changes/delays or if you cannot locate your name, please call the number on your airport pick up form.

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