



Student Ambassador

# Eugenia Rosa

- Italy



*“I have done a lot of hikes and have visited all the lakes around Whistler, which are just amazing. I often went ice skating in winter and I attended yoga classes at the gym, where I met a lot of people who are now my friends.”*

**Whistler  
Secondary  
2016**

I decided to come to Canada because it is a very safe and calm country, I later decided to come here to Whistler because I am a sport lover. I snowboard a lot and I love mountain biking, and since Whistler is considered one of the best places to bike and has some of the most amazing mountains in the world I thought that I couldn't let the opportunity of life here pass just under my eyes. I also decided that this was the right place for me because it is a small community, the village is not too big and crowded, the atmosphere is just perfect and the village is not even that far from Vancouver. I always wanted to live in a calm and relaxed place in the mountains, like Whistler, and now that I have spent almost nine months here, I don't regret my choice.

I know it might sound strange but the best thing about Whistler's community is that it actually feels like a real community. I love the fact that everybody is very friendly and always keen to help me if I have any problems.

The thing that I love the most about the school is that it is quite small and I got to know almost everybody. The teachers are super friendly and caring; at school all the teachers helped me a lot during my winter training season, which required me to be absent three

days a week from school. They would provide me with work and organize a schedule for my quizzes, tests, and exams. I love being at school; the lessons are very interesting and classes are a lot of fun. The school has a beautiful structure, too. I like very much how it gave its students the opportunity to paint the walls and the fact that everything is very interactive. I like a lot how my grade, the grad class, is involved in all the organization of big events like graduation and prom. I love how the school wants all students to be involved. As for my courses, I liked them all. I took English 12, Biology 12, Pre-Calculus 12 and Social Studies 11 the first semester; and Planning 10, English 11, Psychology 12 and History 12 in the second semester. We can consult the teacher when we don't understand our homework. I really appreciate how the teachers put effort into making us learn and succeed.

I love where I have been living in the past ten months; it gave me a lot of opportunities and a lot of chances to have fun and meet new people. I belonged to a snowboard club all winter, so I trained from Wednesday to Sunday from 08:30 to 15:00 every week. It was a lot of fun even though it was a little challenging to keep up with school.

I also got my Level 1 Snowboard Instructor which was pretty awesome. In my spare time I go to the gym, hang out with my friends, and go for walks or bike rides around the Valley Trails and lakes. Sometimes on the weekend my friends and I go to Vancouver or Squamish, go camping, ski and ice skate.

My homestay family is the best that I could find myself in. We like the same food, we share passions and I have a lot of fun with them. We bonded a lot and it's going to be hard for me to leave. I was thinking of attending the University of Victoria next year, but I was too slow to apply and I didn't make it in time, so I will go back to Italy to finish my high school and then come back here to University. My plan is to continue my studies in Canada in any case. I have been able to find some really good friends and a second family that I will never forget and who I will stay in touch with. I will miss the atmosphere and the whole place: the mountains, the nature and the attitude of the people. This place took a piece of my heart and I will never forget how awesome this experience was and what an amazing time I have had here!