

I have been living in St. Mary's, Ontario, Canada for six months. During February, the Olympics were held. Ice hockey is very popular in Canada, so when the Canadian team had games, we watched them. I even watched some games during class. I really wanted to watch figure skating, but it is less popular than ice hockey and curling here, so unfortunately, I couldn't watch it. I would like to tell you what happened to me this month in Canada.

The second semester started. I am taking chemistry, math, English, and a hairstyling class. Last semester I took classes with Grade 10 students, but now I take three classes with Grade 11 students and English with Grade 12 students, so most of my classmates are people who I didn't know before. New international students from Brazil came to our school. They are very friendly, so I often talk with them.



I have a unit test or an essay about every two weeks. It was my first time writing critical essays, so it took a lot of time. I am not very confident about my essays, so I usually finish them before the due date and ask my English teacher to check them. He supports international students a lot, and he always says, "Don't be afraid to ask me for help." In my hairstyling class, I learned how to do Dutch braids, French braids, and fishtail braids. I already knew how to do them because I taught myself when I was in Grade 2, so I am pretty good at them.

The curling season is over. I played a total of four games. In the last game, only five girls could play, and I was selected as one of them. We didn't win very much, but the games were really good. During the games, we talked about how fast the stones should go when I swept, and we discussed our strategy during timeouts. Since curling needs communication and there are only five teammates including me, I talked with my teammates a lot and became closer to them. I really enjoyed playing curling, so I told my curling teacher. He told me that I could join a local curling team because they sometimes need extra players. I am thinking about whether I should join.

Spring is coming, so I also joined the badminton team. I was supposed to have a tryout, but they don't have enough girls, so I was able to join the team without one. I am not sure yet if I will play singles or doubles. I have never played badminton as a player before, so I am not very good at it yet, but my coach teaches me kindly, which is very helpful. Everyone except me has been playing badminton for a long time, so I sometimes feel bad playing with them. I learned that footwork is essential in badminton. I'm kind of just running around the court trying to chase the birdies.

We spent Valentine's Day with my host family. My host dad gave my host mom flowers and a teddy bear, and he also gave flowers and gummies to my host sister and me. Then we had brunch at a café. On another day, I went to art galleries, another café, and a Thai restaurant. My host sister studies art in college, so she likes visiting art galleries. I don't know much about techniques or art history, but looking at art makes me feel relaxed. I can't believe I only have four months left to stay with my host family.



白鷗高校 18 期生 次世代リーダー育成道場第 13 期生 S・H

