

## Julia Pitsiaeli

### 2021 4-H Canada Leadership Excellence Award of Distinction Recipient, Community Engagement & Communications

Julia Pitsiaeli has been a member of the Golden Ears 4-H Community Club in Maple Ridge, British Columbia since she was 11 years old. During her time in 4-H, she has enjoyed competing in public speaking competitions at all levels, working on both non-livestock and livestock projects, and promoting the opportunities 4-H offers. Julia recently became a 4-H BC Ambassador, which has widened her platform for sharing her passion for 4-H.



Julia credits 4-H for helping her develop many important life skills including communication, teamwork, and leadership. Having grown up in an urban environment, 4-H provided Julia with opportunities to connect with agriculture and the environment in new and different ways.

Outside of 4-H, Julia is involved in many aspects of her community. She spends significant time volunteering for organizations such as Operation Christmas Child, New Life Homeschool Association, and within her school – where she was a peer tutor and was founder and editor of the school's first student newsletter – and for many other volunteer organizations.

As part of Science World's Future Science Leaders program this past year, Julia developed an app for epilepsy sufferers to help them monitor their seizures and medication, which she has now founded as a not-for-profit organization. The app was a national winner, representing Canada, at the Technovation international competition.

Julia is proud to be attending the University of British Columbia's Science One program, an honours-level program for science undergraduates, with the hopes of attending medical school in the future.

### L.E.A.D. Perspective

"I love volunteering in various aspects within my community. I volunteer at different events, with my home-school association for Christmas parties, craft markets, recitals, sports days and field trips, and volunteering with organizations such as the Salvation Army and Operation Christmas Child the Maple Ridge ACT Arts Centre and the BC Epilepsy Society. Through these experiences, I've discovered that leadership is integral in volunteering, and I am looking forward to finding more opportunities to volunteer while in university."