**IMMIGRANT BRIDGING**

This section lists Immigrant Bridging programs for immigrants who have post-secondary education and experience in their field of training but require training in Canadian workplace culture, training in their field which may be different from country of origin and job search skills to bridge gaps in knowledge or skill in order to gain entry to their occupation. This training is appropriate for immigrant professionals who are underemployed.

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**Alberta Ministry of Labour Employment and Training Services Directory**

Through the Ministry of Labour, the following link provides information about programs and services that are provided to help workers find and keep jobs, get training, and adapt to a changing labour market. [https://work.alberta.ca/documents/employment-and-training-services-directory.pdf](https://work.alberta.ca/documents/employment-and-training-services-directory.pdf)

The Ministry of Labour Employment and Training Services Directory is organized alphabetically by community. To confirm availability and register for programs and services, please contact the agencies listed.

Information on other career and employment training supports can be accessed through a Career Advisor at the Alberta Career Information Hotline:
- Phone: 1-800-661-3753 (toll-free in Canada) or 780-422-4266 (in Edmonton)
- Online: Submit an e-Question

Please note, the Ministry of Labour directory is updated monthly; however, information is subject to change without notice and may not be all-inclusive. If you have questions about the information, please contact the service provider or the Alberta Career Information Hotline.

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**Bow Valley College – Corporate Readiness Training Program (CRTP)**

Room N445, 332 – 6 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 4S6

[www.bowvalleycollege.ca](http://www.bowvalleycollege.ca)

Some learners may qualify for funding.

**Corporate Readiness Training Program (CRTP)**

http://crtp.bowvalleycollege.ca

Contact: Dona Wanshika

Ph: 403-410-3466

For registration call

Ph: 403-410-1400

Intake Dates: 3 Semesters: Jan, May & Sep

Information Sessions:

First Wed of every month.

Check website for details or call or visit office.

This program is for Internationally Educated Professionals who are looking to start their careers in Calgary. It is a full-time program that provides learners with job search skills and the business and intercultural communication skills they will need to be successful in a Canadian work environment. The program is comprised of 10 weeks of full time blended (face-to-face and on-line) training and six weeks of unpaid work placement to gain Canadian experience. Program content areas include:

- Bridging into the Canadian Workplace: labour market research skills, goal setting, career coaching
- Job Search Tools: targeted competitive resumes, cover letters and interview skills, personal branding, and business cards
- Social Media: Leveraging LinkedIn to your benefit, awareness of appropriate use of social media
- Workplace Essential Skills; Assessing and elevating skill levels
- Business communication skills: Intercultural Communicative competencies, networking, delivering presentations, writing professionally.
- Work Experience Placement: To gain practical experience relevant to the participant’s education, skills and career development needs. Work experience placements in Calgary companies are outside the control of the college, and the decision to host a student is made by the host company. Therefore, a work placement cannot be guaranteed by the program.
CRTP works with professionals from many occupations including; Engineers, IT Professionals, Accountants, Office Administrators, Technicians, Human Resource Officers, Drafters and many others.

Note: doctors, nurses, pharmacists, teachers, dentists, and lawyers have specific colleges or certification boards therefore, CRTP is unable to provide a work experience placement for those occupations. Professionals in these occupations will be referred to Directions for Immigrants.

The program follows the college trimester schedule. There are 2 courses for learners to complete in this program and they must be completed in the same trimester. In the first 10 weeks, classes run Monday to Friday from 8:00 am-12:30 pm. The 6 week work experience placement follows the host company schedule, but generally runs Monday to Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

Learners are able to attend all networking and information events sponsored by the Centre for Excellence in Immigrant and Intercultural Advancement at Bow Valley College, participate in the BVC/CRIEC mentorship program and join the active CRTP Alumni Group.

Eligible Clients must have a minimum CLB of 6 in all strands, be a permanent resident/Canadian citizen, have completed post-secondary in their country of origin, and know which occupational field they wish to pursue. This program is considered an exit program, so learners must be motivated to enter the workforce at the completion of the training. Applications for each intake are accepted 4 months before the intake start date.

This is an Alberta Works funded program. Individuals who are accepted into the program are encouraged to attend a funding workshop at least 6 weeks before the start of the intake to allow for the funding to be processed.

Additional programs have been built to facilitate the ongoing learning and career success for the participants:

- **Corporate Readiness Certificate**: This program helps you develop all the competitive job search strategies and tools you need to compete in the Calgary job market. Create a targeted resume, effective LinkedIn Profile, and strong cover letter to increase your chances of getting an interview. Practice and polish your interviewing skills to highlight your talents to a potential employer. This certificate was designed to give learners who do not qualify for CRTP, or who work during the day, the opportunity to be able to learn the skills needed to advance their careers.

- **Mentorship for Immigrant Professionals**: Funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), this program connects learners/ Clients with working professionals in a mentoring partnership. Contact Chenwei Lian at clian@bowvalleycollege.ca or 403-410-3211.

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**Bow Valley College – DiverseCity onBoard**
345-6th Ave, Calgary, T2G 4V1
www.calgary.diversecityonboard.ca

**DiverseCity onBoard**
Contact: Christine Burke, Business Development Officer, BVC
Ph: 403-410-1587
Email:

This program is the “go-to” program that connects qualified, pre-screened candidates from visible minority and under-represented communities to volunteer board positions.

It provides training in governance through an online learning campus supplemented by in-person discussions and events. The connections are made through a searchable data-base that matches qualified diverse individuals with

CSS Calgary Region Employment, Training and Career Services Directory humanservices.alberta.ca/skillupYYC Jul-Sep 2017 86
Bredin - Centre for Learning
Ste. 500, 744 – 4th Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3T4
www.bredin.ca

Some learners may qualify for funding.

International Pharmacy Bridging Program
Contact: Raj Neupane, Coordinator
Ph: 403-261-5775
Email: raj.neupane@bredin.ca
Ongoing applications
Intake Date: Mar 6/18 with information sessions starting in Sep 2017.

Internationally-trained pharmacists are assisted to acquire a license to practice pharmacy in Alberta. Students are provided with an enhanced learning opportunity, integrating four distinct curriculum areas throughout the duration of study. Upon successful completion of examinations requisite for licensure, graduates are fully prepared to launch active, successful and rewarding careers within the Alberta pharmacy workforce.

Eligibility: Any internationally-trained Pharmacist who has the following credentials is eligible to apply:
- Permanent resident (landed immigrant status)
- Pharmacy degree from a university recognized by the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC)
- Successfully completed the PEBC Evaluating Examination
- An Alberta College of Pharmacists approved language proficiency test
- Intern registration with the Alberta College of Pharmacists

The program runs for 41 weeks. Students participate in seminars, workshops and clinical role play scenarios that develop and hone their professional knowledge and patient counselling skills. In addition, students gain valuable workplace experience while engaged in approximately 500 hours of the Alberta College of Pharmacists’ structured practical training.

Curriculum modules are competency based, aligning with the competencies for Pharmacists at entry to practice by the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) and the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy Canada (AFPC). Successful students are prepared to challenge the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada’s Qualification Examination Part II (OSCE).

Cost: $14,100.

Calgary Catholic Immigration Society (CCIS)
4th Flr, 1111 – 11 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0G5
Ph: 403-264-4850
Fax: 403-264-4858
www.ccisab.ca

Some learners may qualify for funding.

Calgary: A New Chapter
Contact: Iuliana Doljescu, Program Facilitator
Ph: 403-264-4850 ext 5430
Fax: 403-264-4858
Email: networking2@ccis-calgary.ab.ca

Interactive information sessions establish the groundwork for successful settlement and employment. They introduce highly-skilled newcomer professionals to various aspects of the resettlement and integration process. Orientation sessions act as a valuable opportunity to make contacts within the business community and Calgary at large. Key topics include:
- Housing
- Finances
- Family and Education
- Civic Participation
- Cultural Adaptation
- Assessment of Foreign Credentials
Conducting an Effective Job Search in Alberta

Calgary Immigrant Women’s Association (CIWA)
#200, 138 – 4 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB  T2G 4Z6
Ph: 403-263-4414
Fax: 403-264-2914
Email: employmentservices@ciwa-online.com
www.ciwaw-online.com

Bridging the Gap for Foreign-Trained Accountants Program
Contact: Aida Sarbassova
Ph: 403-263-4414 ext 144
Email: aidas@ciwa-online.com
Ongoing applications
Two intakes/year:
Jun & Oct

This program assists professional immigrant women with accounting and/or finance backgrounds gain the necessary skills to successfully bridge to work as an entry level accountant and to obtain relevant Canadian work experience. This is a six month full-time program consisting of 14 weeks of enhanced language and job skills development classroom training followed by a 10 week work experience placement. Program is offered at no cost to participants and provides childcare reimbursement and transit support.

Program details:
• 14 weeks of job skills training
• English enhancement and pronunciation support
• Basic accounting and software training
• One-on-one career planning
• 10 weeks of Canadian work experience
• Job search support
• Follow-up support after program completion

Eligibility:
• Female immigrant
• Canadian permanent resident (not citizen)
• Education in accounting or financial field
• Minimum one year experience from home country
• CLB 6 or higher in all four strands
• Unemployed or underemployed
• Ability to commit to a 24-week, unpaid full-time program

Office Administration Program
Contact: Yulia Minakova
Ph: 403-263-4414 ext 127
Email: yuliam@ciwa-online.com
Two intakes/year:
Apr & Oct

This six-month full-time program is designed to bridge experienced, foreign-trained office administrators into the Canadian workplace. It offers 14 weeks of enhanced language and job skills development classroom training, followed by a 10-week work experience placement in the office administration/HR field. It is offered at no cost to participants and provides childcare reimbursement and transit support.

Program details:
• 14 weeks of job skills training
• Pronunciation support
• Advanced Microsoft Office Suite training
• One-on-one career planning
• 10 weeks of Canadian work experience
• Job search support
• Follow-up support after program completion

Eligibility:
• Female immigrant
• Canadian permanent resident (not citizen)
• Bachelor or Master’s degree
Minimum one year of administrative experience from home country
CLB 7 or higher in all four strands
Unemployed or underemployed
Ability to commit to a 24-week, unpaid full-time program

Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Council (CRIEC)
#1010, 105 – 12 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
www.criec.ca

Contact: Jaya Dharan, Mentoring Support
Ph: 587-894-7583
Email: jaya@criec.ca
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Together with its primary delivery and strategic partner, Bow Valley College (BVC), strategies and initiatives are designed, developed and implemented that are geared to effectively and efficiently connecting internationally trained professionals (ITPs) with Calgary employers. These strategies and initiatives, which include connecting, mentoring (both one-on-one and small group), career path planning, cultural competency workshops, professional advocacy and core or essential skill competency workshops, help both ITPs and employers achieve successful employment outcomes.

Mentoring Programs:
• One-on-one mentoring
• Small group mentoring

Cultural Competency Sessions:
• Individual
• Group
• Employers

Career Path Planning Sessions:
• Individual
• Group
• Professional accreditation
• Core Competency workshops

Centre for Newcomers
Ste. 1010, 999 36 St. NE, Calgary, AB T2A 7X6
www.centrefornewcomers.ca

Contact: Regina Pulos, Program Assistant
Ph: 403-569-3339
Email: cbea@centrefornewcomers.ca
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

This full-time bridging program includes: Business English, Computer and Accounting Courses:
• 9 weeks enhanced English language, Canadian workplace culture and job readiness training (Resume Writing, Interview and Networking Skills)
• 3 weeks of computer training and upgrading
• 12 weeks of accounting courses from an accredited educational institute
• 10 weeks of work experience
• Introduction to membership in professional accounting associations

Qualifications Required:
• University degree in accounting or related
• Professional experience in accounting and currently not working in this profession
• Canadian Language Benchmark of 6 or higher
• Permanent Resident of Canadian citizen
• Commitment to a full-time, 34 week program
• In Canada for less than 10 years

ECO Canada (Environmental Careers Organization)
#200, 308 – 11 Ave. SE, Calgary, AB T2G 0Y2
www.eco.ca
**Internship Program**
Contact: Ph: 403-233-0748
Email: info@eco.ca

ECO Canada offers wage subsidies to environmental employees with a completed post-secondary education. Participants must be 30 years of age or younger and currently looking for employment in the environmental sector. ECO Canada works with environmental employers to create employment matches and works with the organizations to build a training program for each participant including on-the-job training, formal training, and mentorship.

**Environmental Certification**
Contact: Ph: 403-233-0748
Email: info@eco.ca

ECO Canada certifies environmental professionals with the EP designation and EPt designation. These designations are built on National Occupational Standards developed by industry to highlight the competencies needed to work in the environmental sector. This program is appropriate for experienced professionals (5+ years of experience) for the EP designation and less experienced people and newcomers to Canada for the EPt designation.

**Essential Skills Training**
Contact: Ph: 403-233-0748
Email: info@eco.ca

ECO Canada has conducted extensive research for more than two decades on environmental labour market issues. Based on this research, ECO Canada has developed essential skills training geared towards environmental careers. Part of this training is delivered online, part is delivered in-person by ECO Canada’s trainer network, and part is delivered via post-secondary partnerships.

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**Immigrant Access Fund (IAF) - see Immigrant Training and Employment Services**

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**Mount Royal University (MRU)**
4825 Mount Royal Gate SW, Calgary, AB T3E 6K6
http://www.mtroyal.ab.ca/

**Bridge to Canadian Nursing Certificate Program**
Ph: 403-440-6074
Fax: 403-440-6555
Email: bcnursing@mtroyal.ca

This full-time program is designed for nurses who are educated and registered in foreign countries. It introduces Internationally Educated Nurses (IEN) to nursing practice in Canada and combines professional communication skills for nurses, professional terminology, clinical judgment skills and an understanding of human responses in health and illness. It helps IEN identify differences between their previous nursing experience and Canadian practices, and then offers a "bridge" course of studies that will help them gain the knowledge and skills expected of graduate nurses in Canada. Courses are based on national entry competencies which are defined by the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination. They are also based on standards and competencies set by the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta.
SAIT
1301 - 16 Ave. NW, Calgary, AB T2M 0L4
www.sait.ca

Ready to Teach (RTT)
Email Pamela.Heath@sait.ca with your resume and a Letter of Intent specifying your interest and area of concentration
Tuition Fee: $1,595
Terms are contingent upon student enrollment

This program is for professionally and instructionally skilled newcomers, who can contribute to the development of the Canadian workforce by sharing their skills and knowledge in the post-secondary education system. It is designed to help highly skilled newcomers with backgrounds in post-secondary instruction to enhance their language skills in order communicate effectively within the Canadian post-secondary system, and to gain the confidence necessary for presentation of self and technical concepts in front of a diverse group of learners. The program concentrates on professional language, cultural fit, practicum placement, workplace readiness training and coaching, labor-market analyses, and employment.

Entrance Requirements
• Instructionally experienced, professionally skilled immigrants with a minimum Masters level graduates
• Demonstrate a CLB Level 7 in all skills
• A willingness, desire and capacity to pursue an instructional career
• Appropriate credentials/experience in the professional or technical field in which they will be teaching