



## **Spring is a good time to look for a job**

Spring is here and Alberta's economy is growing! For this edition of the newsletter we looked at Alberta's economic recovery and asked Joan Matsusaki, career coach at Directions for Immigrants if this is a good time to look for a job.

According to a recent [Government of Alberta Economic Report](#), "The Alberta economy has emerged from its recession and forecasters are predicting growth. Total employment in Alberta increased by 8,300 jobs between February 2018 and March 2018, a 1.8% increase. The Alberta economy will continue to thrive on its expanding oil sands sector and the development of supply chain, manufacturing and services sectors."

With this positive news and "with spring hiring underway, this is a good time to put aside the winter blues and invest some renewed energy into a job search," says Joan.

Many companies tend to post new job opportunities in April and May before the hiring managers go on summer vacations. Plus some projects may start running under a new budget and the new fiscal year.

If you are an internationally educated professional and need help with your job search, call Directions for Immigrants at 403-770-5155.

## Occupations A to Z

### Tradespeople



The Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training is responsible for certifying tradespeople in Alberta. The certification requirements for trades' occupations vary. Some trades have compulsory certification, while other trades have optional certification. Internationally educated tradespeople who can demonstrate the skills and meet the required work experience criteria for their trade may be eligible for the Qualification Certificate Program.

If you are an internationally educated tradesperson, book an appointment with a career coach at Directions for Immigrants to learn more about the certification process. Call 403-770-5155.



## Career Coaching Tip

### Practice your interviewing skills with a career coach

Are you getting job interviews but not job offers? It may be a good idea to polish your interviewing skills with the help of a career coach. In Canada, many interviewers expect the candidates to use the situation, task, action, result (STAR) format statements and illustrate with examples from their past experience. If you want to learn how sell your skills more effectively using the STAR format, meet with a career coach at Directions for Immigrants.

Julie Zurbrigg, career coach at Directions for Immigrants



## Accreditation

### Changes in the accreditation process for internationally educated nurses

Last year in June 2017, the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CARNA) announced on their website that "to become a registered nurse in Alberta, internationally educated applicants may be required to complete the Alberta Registered Nurse Assessment Program (ARNAP)."

The ARNAP is a standardized examination administered by the Touchstone Institute, "that tests the knowledge, skills and judgement of internationally educated nurses (IENs)

seeking nursing registration in Alberta. In addition to nursing skills, the ARNAP will assess candidates' language proficiency and comprehension, performance in client interactions, ethics, and professionalism," according to the [Touchstone Institute](#) website.

The upcoming exam will be offered on June 16, 2018 and January 26, 2019 in Calgary and Edmonton.

If you are an IEN planning to become a registered Nurse (RN) and need help navigating the accreditation process call us at 403-770-5155.

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