



Directions for Immigrants in
Trades and Professional Careers

Directions Headlines

Issue 21

Spring 2014

10th Anniversary



Directions celebrates 10 years!

More than 9,000 internationally educated professionals
have received help with their job search and accreditation

Fast Facts

- Served over **9,000** clients
- Delivered over **1,120** workshops
- **88%** of our clients are either working in their profession or pursuing accreditation
- Offered **196** study groups to **1,654** clients (including communication groups)
- **1,032** clients have passed a licensing exam

In 2004, Directions for Immigrants opened its doors in downtown Calgary. That year, 9,449 Permanent Residents came to Calgary. Over the years, that number increased to 16,813 in 2012, according to [Citizenship and Immigration Canada](#).

To serve this increasing population of skilled immigrants, the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada funded Directions for Immigrants. For the last 10 years, Directions has helped over 9,000 internationally educated professionals find jobs and become accredited.

In 2004, clients accessed the job search resource centre, workshops and one-on-one career coaching. In 2007 Directions expanded its services to offer Engineering accreditation study groups. In 2008, Directions became the Health Career Centre for southern Alberta. Now, rural-based clients with a health degree, diploma or certificate outside of Canada can access our services from their own communities.

Currently, Directions offers a total of eight [study groups](#) for a variety of professions, as well as two [groups for job success](#). And in 2012, the centre celebrated over 600 clients successfully passing an accreditation exam. **In two years, this number nearly doubled to 1,032.**

Directions looks forward to continue helping clients restart their career in Canada.



Congratulations Lotis!

Lotis is an internationally educated accountant with 8 years of professional experience who received one-on-one guidance and support with her job search from Joan B., career coach at Directions. She recently landed a job as a Junior Accountant for a company in the modular building industry in Calgary. "My Career Coach Joan motivated me to stay focused on the type of work I wanted. I would recommend job seekers to go to Directions for Immigrants and religiously follow their coach's advice," said Lotis.



Clear Communication for Business

Develop your communication skills and improve your success in the Canadian workplace. Topics include Active Listening, Assertiveness, Conflict Resolution, Problem Resolution and Teamwork. This group is open to any internationally educated professional in any occupation.



Minister Kenney and MLA Bhullar's visit

The Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Employment and Social Development, and the Honourable Manmeet Bhullar, Alberta Minister of Human Services, spoke to Directions' clients during their visit on April 24 to sign the [Canada Job Agreement](#).



Networking Session with the City of Calgary

Ashu Ghandi, Corporate Talent Acquisition and Planning with the City of Calgary, presented the City's hiring practices to Directions' clients during a Networking Session on May 2. "The city considers work experience from any country as relevant," said Ashu.

Workshops Summer 2014

Networking and Job Leads

How to Information Interview

How to Network

LinkedIn

Job Search Strategies



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Directions for Immigrants is operated by Bow Valley College. This service is funded by the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada.

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