



SettleSmart Mentorship Program

Powered by Empower Community Services Society

In collaboration with the Consulate General of India, Vancouver

What is the SettleSmart Mentorship Program?

SettleSmart is our community-driven mentorship initiative designed to support **international students and newcomers** as they transition into life, education, and career pathways in British Columbia.

Our goal is simple: **To connect newcomers with the right guidance, the right community, and the right opportunities—at the right time.**

Whether you're navigating your first job search, understanding immigration pathways, building confidence, or adapting to Canadian culture, SettleSmart provides personalized support through experienced mentors who have walked the same journey.

How the Program Works

SettleSmart is built as a **lightweight, flexible, and impactful mentorship model:**

1. Mentee Registration

Students/newcomers complete a brief form outlining their goals, challenges, and areas where they need support.

2. Mentor Matching

We match them with mentors based on:

- ✓ Career interests
- ✓ Academic background
- ✓ Industry goals
- ✓ Personal challenges (confidence, communication, stress, etc.)

3. Monthly Mentorship Touchpoints

Each mentor commits to **1–3 hours per month**, which may include:

- Career guidance
- Resume/LinkedIn feedback
- Interview practice
- Industry insights
- Networking tips
- Confidence building
- General life navigation in BC

4. Resources & Community

Mentees gain access to:

- Workshops
- Peer groups
- Special events
- Job & volunteering opportunities
- Mental wellness resources
- Immigration info sessions

5. Progress Check-ins

We stay connected to ensure meaningful mentorship, growth, and support throughout the program.

Why This Program Matters

International students and newcomers often face:

- Isolation and lack of community
- Confusion about jobs, PR, career paths
- Difficulty understanding the Canadian system
- Limited professional networks
- Stress, burnout, or confidence challenges

SettleSmart bridges this gap by offering **real people with real experience** to guide them.

Because **no one should have to navigate a new country alone.**

Who Is This Program For?

SettleSmart is designed for:

- International students entering college/university
- Recent graduates starting their career
- Newcomers adjusting to life in BC
- Anyone seeking clarity on their professional direction
- Individuals looking to build confidence and community

Mentor Commitment (Only 1–3 hours/month)

Our mentors are professionals, entrepreneurs, academics, and community leaders who:

- ✓ Share their lived experiences
- ✓ Help mentees set achievable goals
- ✓ Offer guidance during life and career transitions
- ✓ Provide encouragement and confidence
- ✓ Open doors through knowledge and networks

This is a **voluntary**, high-impact commitment that truly changes lives.

Mentee Commitment

Mentees agree to:

- ✓ Attend monthly mentor meetings
- ✓ Come prepared with questions/goals
- ✓ Take responsibility for their progress
- ✓ Show professionalism and respect
- ✓ Participate in workshops when possible

The more they engage, the more they grow.

Our Promise

SettleSmart is built on:

- ✦ Respect
- ✦ Cultural understanding
- ✦ Inclusion
- ✦ Practical guidance
- ✦ Community care
- ✦ Empowerment

We believe mentorship is not just advice —

it's connection, confidence, and a sense of belonging.