## The EFS Bridging Program - 20 students successfully complete the program today!

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## The Professional Excellence in Financial Services Program (EFS)

The current cohort of 20 students started the EFS fast track program in January 2022 and today, 20 successfully complete the program! They have been actively learning and improving many skills over the last 16 weeks. Today we are very proud to celebrate our students' success and their extraordinary employment outcomes. 100% of the students successfully secured employment in the finance sector.

Congratulations on your remarkable success students!

The EFS Bridging program is specifically designed to help Internationally Trained professionals make use of their International education and work experience, transitioning the bridge to a successful career in the financial industry in Canada

Through the EFS bridging program, students continue to build their skill set acquired in their home country and are getting prepared to meet Canadian standards for occupations in financial industry.

A highlight of this cohort was the EFS Reunion Event organized for EFS students and alumni. This was a great opportunity for participants to learn about the importance of networking and leadership. The first part of the session "What the World Needs Now - Leading with Connection and Caring" was facilitated by Jean Chow, Business and Career Coach. The second part of the event "Leadership Storytelling" was presented by Andrew Li, a talented leader and Branch Manager at RBC who engaged the audience with his journey into the banking sector. Andrew's story conveyed deep and powerful messages and motivated participants to build connections with industry experts and lead by example.

Networking is essential for everyone starting or advancing their careers. Most newcomers identify networking as a barrier to finding employment. The ability to connect with people is a valuable skill to establish and maintain quality relationships to get a job, find a mentor and career advancement. This event helped to develop an approach to networking, with curiosity and excitement. Both speakers reaffirmed the importance of this for achieving career and life goals.

The EFS Bridging program provides students with unique engaging opportunities and

extensive access to networks and employers. The multiple events organized for each cohort lead to a strong connection between all students, industry experts and staff members with many relationships, professional guidance and mentoring continuing beyond the program.

One of the benefits for employers supporting our EFS program is that we give recruiters access to a big group of qualified candidates in one place and help them build connections with our students /potential candidates from the very beginning of the program through mentoring activities, financial literacy sessions, job shadowing and informational interviews.

We are offering more than 50 career related activities for each EFS cohort and coordinate recruiting events with the largest 5 banks in Canada.

The next EFS program will be offered in **June** 2022 and **November 2022**. Please share with your networks.

The EFS Bridging program is a successful and practical program designed to support Internationally trained professionals to acquire the marketable skills and industry knowledge to help them secure a dream job in financial sector in Canada.

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