

Why Should I attend TRU's Job Fair?

The Career Education Department

Every year TRU's Career Education Department puts on the largest job fair at a post-secondary institution in the BC Interior. In fact, it is the second biggest university job fair in the province, with over 2000 students attending each year.

This year, the job fair is on Thursday, March 8, 2012, from 10-3pm in the TRU Campus Activity Centre, 2nd floor, Grand Hall.

There will be employers coming to hire students for part time work, summer employment and grad jobs. Employers will be recruiting students and grads from every program area of TRU (e.g. Arts, Fine Arts, Science, Business, Tourism, Trades, Health, Education, Journalism and Social Work)

If you are looking for part time work, summer employment or a grad job you should attend. But there are other reasons you should attend as well.

First, you will be able to talk to a wide range of private businesses, not-for-profits and government organizations. Some will be as small as ten people, while others will be some of the largest companies in Canada. By talking to as many organizations as possible, it will help you decide what type of organization you want to work for.

You will gain contacts. Often, it may take a number of months or even years for the right opportunity to open up at the company you are interested in. Or it might be that you are very interested in a grad position with a company but won't be graduating until next year. A company may be interested in you as well, but not be hiring for your particular skills at the moment. By getting business cards of the company representatives you can keep in touch and build a long term relationship.

You will gain confidence. You will be able to practice introducing yourself professionally (e.g. "Hello, my name is Jackie Smith, and I'm a 3rd year Tourism Student"). You can watch how other students and employers interact and decide what works and what doesn't. Then, when it finally comes to an interview, you will be more poised and confident.

You can ask employers questions. You can ask direct questions to employers such as "what would your ideal candidate be like?" or "what is the most important information you are looking for on a resume?" You can ask questions such as "what are the opportunities for advancement in your company?" or "Why do you like working for your organization?"

Whether you are a 1st year or 4th year student, plan to attend the Job Fair to job search, develop networking skills and contacts, or to explore career options.



THOMPSON RIVERS
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Career Education Department

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