



**BACK in MOTION**

**Skills Connect for  
Immigrants Program**


**Advancing immigrants' skills  
Building BC's workforce**



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**(604) 575-3800**

**[www.skillsconnect.ca](http://www.skillsconnect.ca)**



British Columbia's employers are looking for workers in many different areas to meet the demands of a growing economy and an expanding job market. The Government of B.C. understands that you have the skills, qualifications and experience needed to advance our economy and is working to assist immigrants to obtain employment in B.C. The Skills Connect for Immigrants Program uses an individualized approach to help you find that perfect employment fit, tailored to meet your needs.

Skills Connect for Immigrants offers Mentoring Services that help to connect skilled immigrants with a Canadian counterpart in his or her own occupation. Mentoring services improve employment outcomes for skilled immigrants as it helps them find jobs that match their skills and talent.




**Eighty percent of participants who complete this program find meaningful careers that use their skills and training.**

**Will you be our next success story?**

*"Today I feel I have achieved everything that I wanted in my career. I deeply thank all the staff who work for Back in Motion, they are doing tremendous work."*

*Skills Connect Client, 2013  
Trained as a Nurse*

*Then: unemployed  
Now: working as a Registered Nurse*



Many B.C. immigrants are skilled and have experience in occupations where there are shortages of qualified workers. Yet, many B.C. immigrants are unemployed or employed outside of their field of expertise. Some of the challenges new immigrants face are a lack of Canadian credentials and Canadian work experience, a limited understanding of the Canadian workplace and its culture, a lack of job specific language skills, and a lack of recognition for their international credentials.

The Skills Connect for Immigrants Program provides immigrants with the resources, support, and expertise they require to attain their career goals in B.C.

## Did you know?

- B.C. predicts almost one million job openings by 2018
- Only half of those jobs will be filled by our current population

Fortunately, that means more opportunities for you!

**Our program can help you get back to work and use the skills and experience you brought to B.C.!**



## What is it?

Skills Connect for Immigrants Program (Skills Connect) helps immigrants move more quickly into jobs that match their skills, experience and knowledge. Funded by the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, Skills Connect is provided by Back in Motion, in collaboration with MOSAIC in the Lower Mainland.

Skills Connect assists immigrants to access employment opportunities in all industry sectors in B.C. This program addresses two pressing issues currently facing this province:

1. Immigrants are often unemployed or under-employed outside of their field of expertise.
2. Employers are experiencing a shortage of workers to build a permanent, reliable, and skilled workforce.

## Eligibility Criteria

*You are eligible if you...*

- Became a permanent resident of Canada within the last 5 years;
- Are live-in caregivers who are in Canada with a work permit under the Live-in Caregiver Program;
- Are Permanent Residents who entered through the Live-in Caregiver Program;
- And, are unemployed or underemployed;
- Have at least intermediate English language skills.

## How does the program work?

Clients work one-on-one with an employment counsellor and a job developer through one or more of the following activities based on individual needs:

### *1. Assessment and Individual Action Planning*

- Assess your skills and background to identify the right career for you;
- Develop a personalized employment action plan that outlines all the steps required to attain your career goal.

### *2. Skill Enhancement Services*

Support you in getting your B.C. certification, become a member of a professional association, take a course to enhance your skills or upgrade to Canada's job requirements.

### *3. Workplace Orientation and Practice Services*

- Assist you in gaining valuable insight into Canadian work place culture by connecting you with employers that need your skills;
- Help you practice your interviewing skills;
- Provide you access to job mentorship and training opportunities;
- Provide you with job leads and employment opportunities.





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Office Locations:  
Burnaby, Coquitlam, Richmond,  
Surrey, Vancouver, and North Vancouver



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Canada



WelcomeBC

*"The Skills Connect for Immigrants Program is part of the WelcomeBC umbrella of services, made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia."*