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programs

ACCESS 2017 | 2018

Learning the Ropes of Leadership

By Tessa Vanderkop | tessa@bbot.ca

The Access Student Career Development Program, now in its sixth year, has successfully graduated over 300 students helping them gain a competitive edge as they enter the workforce. By providing opportunities to learn soft skills, through workshops, networking, and mentorship, students not only gain confidence but build valuable networks through participation.

Each year Access also invites students to participate on committees led by Access alumnus. These committees offer an opportunity for students to develop their leadership capacity, particularly the chairs as they steer often large groups towards delivering projects.

Featured are three of the young leaders helping their teams navigate deliverables from ideas to action!



KYLE PETTIE | INNOVATION + TECH ENTREPRENEUR COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

"I like chairing the tech and entrepreneur committee because it's a great way to pass along the skills and expertise I've gained through school, work and the Access Program. I love meeting new people and collaborating with them to create exciting new BBOT events. Tech and Entrepreneurship are both topics that intrigue me and I feel like co-chairing the committee is a great opportunity to expand my knowledge in those areas."



ENOCH WENG | INNOVATION + TECH ENTREPRENEUR COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

"I recently graduated from SFU with a BBA Finance concentration. I was part of last year's Access program, having been part of the Social Committee, and am back for more fun!

I've worked in Tech for about a year as a programs coordinator for Wavefront, a national tech accelerator, where I had the opportunity to work alongside numerous startup companies and entrepreneurs. I then decided on a career change, and for now, I am part of Freedom 55 Financial where I am working as a Financial Advisor. My goal is to start my own venture within the next few years and to change the woooooorld!"



ALEXANDRA IRINA | CASE COMPETITION COMMITTEE CHAIR • SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP COMMITTEE CHAIR

"I enjoy volunteering because it helps me connect with other professionals, work in teams and develop my leadership skills. Last year as an Access student I had the opportunity to participate in the Skills Workshop Committee. I learned a lot and wanted to participate again, but this time as a chair so I could continue to develop as a leader and to help other students as they make their way through the program." ■

Up Close

RENEE CHAU IT PROJECT MANAGER | TELUS BBOT MEMBER, ACCESS COMMITTEE MEMBER | BBOT CHAIR, BURNABY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK | BBOT

What would you say to young entrepreneurs and business professionals about the BBOT? How does it benefit them?

The BBOT is an opportunity to get exposed to different industries and build both personal and professional relationships. Through the Burnaby Board of Trade's Young Professionals Network, the BBOT has shown they are committed to helping young professionals develop their careers through skills development workshops and opportunities to network both with community leaders as well as like-minded individuals. One of the core values of BYPN is to foster authentic relationships between people in the community so that there is a strong element of trust and willingness to help each other grow.

Find out more about the BYPN at bbot.ca/programs.



PLEDGE FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Over 150 Burnaby businesses have taken the pledge for a sustainable community. Over 27 have shared their sustainability Success stories.

Curious about Electric Vehicles? Metro Vancouver is currently hosting information sessions (at your place of work) to help you and your employees understand the choices available. Find out more at bbotpledge.ca/curious-about-electric-vehicles.

What happens to all those pens when you're finished with them? Recycle them of course! Find out more about Project S.A.V.E bbotpledge.ca/project-s-a-v-e-pen-recycling.

Interested in taking first and next steps towards become more sustainable?

Take the Pledge and join our community. Its free and easy. Visit bbotpledge.ca. ■