



Helping International Students Make Local Connections

WHAT IS CONNECTING?

International students have a lot to offer the business community but often have a more difficult time making the “right” connections in their new community.

The International Student Connector Program is here to assist MBA and Co-op students from the School of Business and Computer Science at UPEI meet one-on-one with established business owners, operators, managers and community leaders in Charlottetown. Through these connections, the international student may decide to stay on Prince Edward Island and build their career here.

The International Connector Program aims to:

1. Create awareness among the Charlottetown business community about the pool of talent that international students at UPEI offer.
2. Develop better networks for international MBA and Co-op students by engaging them with the business community through the Greater Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce.

Though the one-on-one meetings with business community “connectors” international students will have the opportunity to enhance their networking skills, grow their professional network in Charlottetown and improve their job search.

HOW CONNECTORS WORKS

During your meeting, the connector commits to provide you with a minimum of three referrals of people in their network. The connector then contacts the three referrals to confirm they have the time to meet with you and are willing to participate. The three referrals are then encouraged to provide you with the names of three more people at which point you, the international student, are responsible for making the initial contact and thus build your business network in Charlottetown. It is up to the student to maintain your network and make the most of your connector meetings.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Any international student who:

1. Holds a valid work permit with a valid passport from their home country or who is a permanent resident of Canada.
2. Is part of the MBA program at UPEI or is a senior student in the Co-op program through the UPEI School of Business or Computer Science Department.
3. Currently lives in Prince Edward Island and wants to stay here following graduation.
4. Is active in his/her job search.

The International Student Connector Program is a partnership between the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce, the UPEI School of Business, the Prince Edward Island Population Secretariat, and the Greater Halifax Partnership.

Contact Melissa MacDonald, Program Liaison, PEI Connectors Program, at **628-2000** or mmacdonald@charlottetownchamber.com for more information.