



TRIEC

Toronto Region Immigrant
Employment Council

New Realities. New Opportunities.

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

The Mentoring Partnership video

Mentors, mentees and corporate partners speak about TRIEC's mentoring program and how mentoring makes a difference. To learn more visit TheMentoringPartnership.com

Erich Shih – Mentee
Teacher

Mentoring made a difference to me because it gave a human perspective to job seeking.

Karen Brown – Mentee
Senior Business Analyst

Personally, I think I have become more self-aware and I have also become more confident.

Ratna Omidvar
President, Maytree
Chair, Board of Directors, TRIEC

The Mentoring Partnership is a simple but magical idea.

It connects two people, no matter where they come from or what language they speak.

The only think that matters is that they share a common occupation, and through this commonality, doors are opened, bridges are built and lives are changed.

And that's the magic.

Jennifer Rowe
VP Corporate Marketing and Communications, Manulife Financial

Well, mentoring is a wonderful example of our key value.

One of our core values is being an employer of choice. And in order to be an employer of choice we need to develop the skills of our managers and our people, and be able to attract the very best talent in the city, and being involved in mentoring allows us to both of those things.

Graphic board:

Since 2004, over 50 employers have become involved in The Mentoring Partnership. More than 1000 matches are made each year.

**Gerry Skipwith - Mentor
VP, Services, Compugen**

I've had a couple of big surprises. One is just how many skilled immigrants there are that are out there and it's like in many ways they're invisible.

We were two ships passing in the night; we had this big need for skilled people. There's a large pool of skilled immigrants and we had no idea.

**Marvin Ti – Mentee
IT Sales and Business Development**

Before I joined The Mentoring Partnership I wasn't sure at all if I really do have the proper skill sets to and if I'm really job ready for the Canadian workplace.

With Gerry's help, I was able to build my network of contacts here in Canada which I think is really the key because my resume is now going to the right places and I'm getting interviews.

Graphic board:

98% of mentees gained a better understanding of relevant professional skills and how to customize their résumé for their profession.

**Jasmine Tehara – Mentor
Associate VP, TD Wealth Management**

TRIEC provides great support and resources in two ways. One, they have this fantastic handbook that is great for mentors and mentees. It describes the regular conversations that you should be having, what are sample agendas, good questions to debrief, some common experiences and other tools.

And then they have coaches that can walk you through specifics of any situation or concerns or issues that you need help with.

Graphic board:

The Mentoring Partnership is delivered through community partners that:

- pre-screen mentees
- make mentoring matches
- provide ongoing coaching and support to mentors and mentees

Karen Brown – Mentee
Senior Business Analyst

I was able to do resume preparation, do mock interviews as well, which helped. It also helped me to structure my resume in a way that employers would want to pick-up my resume and call me in for an interview.

Mohammed Chowdhury – Mentee
Business Analyst

The first most important thing I would say is that it helped me keeping my head up during a very difficult time of settling in a new country.

Secondly, I would say it helped building my professional network. I knew absolutely nobody when I came to Canada. You know and Diana, she shared her professional network with me.

Diana Wielgus – Mentor
Director, Decision Support Services, Finance Decision
Scotiabank Group

There were times during my meetings with Mohammed when I heard this little voice in my head. That voice was telling me, *Diana, hold up the mirror. Listen to yourself. Listen and take your own advice.* What I was hearing was from myself how to take my own career up to the next level.

Rose De Veyra – Mentor
Senior Program Consultant
Mackenzie Financial Corporation

The people at TRIEC were so helpful in giving us online resources, coming to do an information session for us and talking about what the commitment was going to be. And helping us to understand what we needed to do so that we could sustain the program in our organization.

Graphic board:

Mentoring is a 24 hour commitment over 4 months. Many mentors choose to repeat the experience.

Peggy Byrne – Mentor
Communications Representative, City of Toronto

This is for anybody who's a professional. You don't have to be in management. Whatever it is you do and you do best that's your profession and you can share that with somebody who comes from another country.

**Erich Shih – Mentee
Teacher**

There was this human side because somebody was telling me that job seeking is just part of the journey that I'm taking, and if I face challenges, then I just have to overcome those and then go on after.

**Monique Bateman
SVP HR, Canadian Retail, TD Canada Trust**

It truly is amazing when they are working with a mentee and they see that mentee be successful, they have great pride in their involvement. And for us, in order for our future leaders to be successful we need them to be confident, we need them to be great coaches, and I would say that is probably the biggest surprise or benefit that we see within TD.

Graphic board:

Mentors reported a significant increase in:

- coaching skills they can apply at work
- confidence to work effectively with new immigrants
- confidence in supporting immigrants in adapting to the workplace

**Jasmine Tehara – Mentor
Associate VP, TD Wealth Management**

I think it's a great opportunity to give back and to really make a difference in someone else life. Because someone did that for you.

**Olesea Papan – Mentee
Workforce Specialist**

Mentoring helped me to find a job, a friend and a home.

**Ratna Omidvar
President, Maytree
Chair, Board of Directors, TRIEC**

Someone helped you get to where you are today. It's time to pay it forward. Become a mentor.

Mentor. Share. Connect.

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