

Bow Valley College CONNECTOR



May 14, 2021 Edition

Hello BVC international learners,

We hope you are enjoying your first two weeks of classes. If you are looking for any kind of support, including academically, personally, or immigration-related, **please find attached our International Learner Reference Book**, a valuable source of information that will be helpful in guiding you through the various supports, resources, and information we have available to you and how to access them. We encourage you to give it a read through to learn what kind of information is included here in one place for your convenience.

If you are considering adding or dropping any courses, today, May 14, is the last day to do so in order to receive a full refund, excluding the confirmation fee. This is also the **last day** you are able to **apply for transfer credit**.

For anyone arriving to Canada, please remember to **submit a copy of your study permit** to ieconnect@bowvalleycollege.ca. Contact an [International Advisor](#) if you have any questions.

As always, we remain committed to providing you with updates on immigration, academic support, and campus life opportunities, through our bi-weekly newsletter. Please make sure you **read through the entire newsletter**, so as not to miss any important updates.

Stay in touch,
Nabila Barakat
International Engagement



Webinars & Immigration Updates

Are you graduating this semester and want more information on getting a **Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)**?

Join this **webinar** to learn more:

1. **Date:** Wednesday, May 19, 2021
2. **Time:** 11:30 a.m. [MST] or 11:00 p.m. [IST]
3. **Location:** [RSVP](#) by 12:00 p.m. [MST] on Tuesday, May 18, to receive event link.

Do you want more information about **travelling to Canada** and the current **required quarantine plan when arriving to Canada**, as well as learn about the most recent **IRCC updates**?

Join this **webinar** to learn more:

1. **Date:** Thursday, June 3, 2021
2. **Time:** 8:00 a.m. [MST] or 7:30 p.m. [IST]
3. **Location:** [RSVP](#) by 12:00 p.m. [MST] on Wednesday, June 2, to receive event link.

Initial study permit application outside Canada

Students who submit their complete study permit application before May 15, 2021, may receive a decision from IRCC by August 6, 2021. Please get details [here](#).

Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP)

Students who completed their program from overseas may be able to submit a Post-Graduation Work Permit from outside Canada. Please get details [here](#).

Please note:

- *Students who applied to graduate by April 15, 2021 will receive a completion letter on the conferral date of May 28, 2021.*

- You may need a valid job offer with a work permit approval to enter Canada while current travel restrictions are in effect.

Flights suspension from India and Pakistan

The Government of Canada issued a notice to suspend all commercial and private passenger flights from India and Pakistan for 30 days, effective 23:30 EDT on April 22, 2021. Please do not make any travel plans until this pause to travel is lifted. Please get details [here](#).

IRCC Updates:

Please be aware of the latest [IRCC announcement](#) concerning international travelers arriving to Canada as of February 22, 2021. Per IRCC, all air travelers arriving in Canada “must reserve a room in a Government of Canada-approved hotel for three nights at their own cost and take a COVID-19 molecular test on arrival at their own cost.” Please be prepared to include these costs and arrangements in your quarantine plan. Travelers are still required to provide their negative pre-departure test.

Please note that Bow Valley College is a recognized institution with a COVID-19 readiness plan to assist our international learners. For those preparing to come to Canada, please ensure you review the [pre-arrival resources](#) page on our website.

If you have received an official copy of your study permit, please make sure to submit a copy to ieconnect@bowvalleycollege.ca.

Do you have academic, campus life, or immigration questions? Simply click the button below to connect with an advisor.

[Ask an advisor](#)



Campus/Community Updates

Below are some important updates and upcoming community events that we encourage you to sign up for or take note of:

1. **TODAY, MAY 14: COURSE ADD/DROP DEADLINE – No refunds will be granted after today, no exceptions.**
2. **Boost Your Mood with Gratitude:** Please join us on [MS Teams](#) **May 17 from 1:00-2:00pm MST** for a **practice of gratitude** that will help **improve your mood** and **sense of connection with others**. Email brbasisty@bowvalleycollege.ca for more information.
3. **Speed Friendling Online – make new friends at Bow Valley College!** Finding it tough studying remotely? Join our **fun and fast icebreaker game** online on **May 17 at 12:30pm MST** for a chance to **meet new friends**. See [here](#) for registration and details.
4. **Anti-Racism at Bow Valley College:** The School of Global Access completed a research project by surveying and talking to students and experts about racism and their recommendations for anti-racist actions at the College. We will share what we learned on **May 19 at 12:30pm MST**. Register [here](#).
5. **Support Good Mental Health:** Did you know that as a student you have access to **FREE workshops, seminars & training**? Visit our [Mental Health Training website](#) for more info on these sessions.

[Find Out More](#)



Humans of BVC

“Bow Valley College is very diverse, and it was easy to connect with anyone”, says **Fidji Garcia**, our next Human of BVC! We invite you to read more about Fidji’s journey as an international student at Bow Valley College.

Why did you choose to study at Bow Valley College?

I had graduated from marketing in my home country and was looking for a faster and similar program that would allow me to further improve my knowledge. After checking many schools in Calgary, Bow Valley College was my main choice as it had the right certificate and requirements I was looking for. In addition, the ease of admission process was an important factor as well as its affordability and location.

What positive things can you say about your international education experience at Bow Valley College?

I had been living in Calgary for 6 years prior to studying at Bow Valley College and I have never experienced a place with such diversity and understanding of the different cultures at once. Bow Valley College is very diverse, and it was easy to connect with anyone. Also, the study part, as most of the instructors were helpful and their content was easy to follow.

Describe the support services provided on campus to international students, and how these supports have helped you as an international student.

At Bow Valley college, there are different types of laboratories such as hi-tech and computer, amazing library services with friendly and helpful staff, meeting rooms, studios, and Wi-Fi that helps develop a strong teaching method. They also have great peer tutoring, helping students working on their assignments, and reinforce knowledge learned in class. Besides, it gives confidence to the

students for preparing and improving their grades. I also had the opportunity to get help from the international advisors at the international department for any questions or concerns.

What do you like the most about Bow Valley College?

The downtown location and smaller building with less people made it so I was able to make better connections. Also, the cultural environment is a plus. I have met incredible people through Bow Valley College, and I am forever grateful they are part of my life, and I would never have been able to if it wasn't for school.

Did you find a job after graduation? Are you currently working? If you're still a student, did you do any volunteer jobs?

Yes, I am currently working at a retail store.

What advice would you give to someone who is considering Canada as their education destination?

Besides being an amazing country, with gorgeous landscape, bilingual and multicultural as well as free healthcare, Canada has so much to offer. There are a lot of opportunities for growth, for living and for studying. As being a foreigner myself, we don't give enough credit on how Canada is perfect for building a life. As for advice, work on building a network, volunteer, meet people. It is very important to have a strong network when you move into a different country as this will be your base for building your future.

Congratulations on all your accomplishments so far. We are proud of you!

[Learn more](#)

Are you interested in being a volunteer or an Executive Member at the International Students Club? Send us an email at jssc@bowvalleycollege.ca



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**Our mailing address is:
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