

# **Columbia College Homestay Program**

homestay@columbiacollege.ca



## **Responsibilities of a Private Custodian**

**Students that study in Canada and arrive without a natural parent or legal guardian may require a Custodian during this time. This person will care for the student and ensure their well-being while they are in Canada.**

**In British Columbia the age of majority is 19 years until the person is considered an adult. A person under the age of 19 is considered a minor.**

**The Custodial Guardian's role is to ensure that the minor-aged student is safe and supported while living in Canada. At Columbia College the host family takes on this role, unless the natural parents have appointed a Private Custodian.**

**All Custodians must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, 25 years or older, reside in the lower mainland, and speak English fluently. They must:**

- **Establish good communication with the student; especially if NOT living in the same home;**
- **Assist student if; ill or other emergencies involving the student arise;**
- **Assist with; opening bank accounts, purchasing compass card, pre-paid cell phones;**
- **Inform student on services available in the area such as; library's, recreation centers, shopping malls;**
- **Assist with medical services;**
- **Be willing to sign school waivers, if required;**
- **Be in contact with the school regarding attendance, academic progress and any other school related concerns.**

**Signature of Private Custodian:** \_\_\_\_\_