

Columbia College Vancouver, BC, Canada

Your opportunity to support Accessible, Equitable Education for aspiring students from around the globe begins here!

In Vancouver at Columbia College

Please join us to support Columbia College students such as Nour in the future!



While in Syria, Nour completed two years of studies in Pharmacy. Due to the war, her family had to constantly flee between Lebanon and Syria. Unable to have permanent status in Lebanon and unable to remain in Syria, her family resettled in Canada and arrived in BC. Nour attended Columbia College on a bursary and then was accepted into Simon Fraser University to study Biomedical Sciences. Nour is now a Canadian citizen and entered UBC's Pharmacology program in Fall 2021. <u>Watch her interview</u> where she describes the challenges faced re-starting her education and how she overcame the barriers that came her way.

Columbia College is a registered charity that offers first and second-year university level courses that can lead to a Columbia College Associate Degree and are fully transferable to local universities.

This unique approach – flexible programming to provide diverse students with a platform to access Canada's best post-secondary institutions – is in demand from young people coming to live and work in British Columbia from around the world.

Many of these young people have faced barriers to education. Building on a long history, in 2022 Columbia College launched the *Institute for Equity and Advancement in Education* focused on equipping students from disparate regions of the world with fundamental workplace and digital literacy skills and providing direct support to those who have been forcibly displaced from their home or country of origin.

Institute for Equity and Advancement in Education

1. International Centre for Student Success (ICSS):

Equipping international students with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in the innovation economy and in their community. The ICSS provides comprehensive and holistic wrap-around supports to enable students from diverse backgrounds to access, continue, or restart their academic journey. Programs at the ICSS include counselling, tutoring, academic advising, immigration advisors, career support, and annual events such as the Limitless Conference to support and profile leadership skills amongst international students.



"Columbia College sets a high academic standard which helps students who transfer to University to be prepared for their studies." Xiaoyan Situ is a Columbia College graduate. She works as an Assistant Manager at HSBC Global Trade and Receivables Finance in Vancouver, BC

2. CentRe for Equitable Access to Transformative Education (CREATE)

Removing barriers for students from equity deserving communities to pursue a higher education. Includes a Student Refugee Program, World University Services of Canada (WUSC partnership), scholarships, awards, and bursaries to provide equitable access to education and student emergency support.

3. Collaborative Education Lab (Co-LAB)

Building partnerships between faculty, students, and community, in a collaborative teaching and learning environment. The lab will support and launch multi-disciplinary projects designed to: a) explore new approaches to student-centred learning, and b) empower students, instructors, and

college alumni to take leadership roles advancing place-based solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges.

Please join Columbia College in investing in the future of our students and British Columbia today.

Equity in education builds strong communities. Columbia College has been in our community since 1936 for those without the benefit of a conventional path to higher education. We are building unique supports and approaches for the 21st century to provide access to diverse populations into the BC economy and workforce of the future.

Will you join us?



Mark Friesen

Executive Director, Institute for Equity and Advancement. 438 Terminal Avenue Vancouver, BC, V6A 0C1 <u>mfriesen@columbiacollege.ca</u> 604-683-8360 Ext 110 CRA #: 118868504RR0001 <u>Donate here</u>