

Job Fairs

A guide for newcomers to British Columbia



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1. Introduction

Why attend a job fair?

- *To speak one-on-one with employers*
- *To find out about potential job opportunities*
- *To find out what skills, education and experience employers are looking for*
- *To give employers a chance to meet you in person, so they may remember you when they are recruiting*

A job fair is a great opportunity to network with potential employers, find out about job opportunities, and improve your interview skills. You can also gather information about organizations you may be interested in working for.

Job fairs can be held by one individual company or industry seeking to hire new employees or they can be large events with multiple employers.

The following sources provide more information about attending job fairs:

- **Career and Job Fair Do's and Don'ts, Live Career**
<https://www.livecareer.com/resources/jobs/search/career-job-fair-dos-donts>
- **6 Job Search Etiquette Tips**
<https://www.monster.ca/career-advice/article/six-job-fair-etiquette-tips>
- **Career Cruising [Employment Guide – Job Fairs]**
Available from the VPL Digital Library | Explore our Digital Library page
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/career-cruising>

2. Finding Job Fairs in BC

You can find out about upcoming local job fairs through newspaper and trade magazine advertisements, social media, employment service agencies, and professional associations.

Local Newspapers

Many newspapers advertise job fairs in your community. You can look at the Vancouver Sun & The Province at the Vancouver Public Library for free. Or browse other local & community newspapers such as: Metro, 24 Hours, Vancouver Courier, Canadian Immigrant, etc.

Employment Service Organizations

The resources below are hosted by immigrant and employment service agencies. They are updated on a regular basis and provide lists of upcoming job fairs around Metro Vancouver.

- **Employment Events, YWCA Metro Vancouver**

<https://ywcavan.org/programs/employment-programs-services/events>

Provides a listing of upcoming hiring fairs in Metro Vancouver

- **Weekly Employment & Settlement Events, ISSBC**

<https://www.facebook.com/issbc>

Sign up to receive weekly list of events, including job fairs, through Facebook

- *You can also sign up to receive notifications of events through Twitter*

<https://twitter.com/issbc>

Professional Associations

Associations host industry-specific fairs in order to promote job opportunities in their sector. Examples of local associations who have recently held hiring fairs include:

- BC Construction Association
- BC Technology Industry Association
- go2HR [Tourism]

Listings of local professional associations can be found through the following sites. Contact them to find out if they are holding upcoming events:

- **Business & Trade Organizations, Industry Canada - Links**
<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ccc-rec.nsf/eng/Home?OpenDocument>
- **Internationally Trained Technology Professionals - Links**
<http://www.ittpbc.com/contact/links/>
- **Associations Canada**
Available at VPL Central Branch, 060 A84

3. Finding Job Fairs Before You Come to Canada

Tip: If you are thinking of immigrating to Canada while living in your home country, remember:

- *many employers who hire foreign workers may already be actively recruiting in your country*

To find job fairs before coming to Canada:

- check with the nearest Canadian embassy to see if there are any job fairs held by Canadian businesses in your region
 - ***Government of Canada, Embassies and Consulates***
<https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates>
- search for any industry associations in your area that may host job fairs or trade shows that include Canadian businesses
- check with universities that have degree programs in your industry to see if they host career fairs that include Canadian companies

4. Additional Resources

Still looking for more information? Try looking at the following resources:

- ***How to find a job in Canada*** / Efim Cheinis. 2008. Central Library, 650.142 C51h
- ***No Canadian experience, eh?*** / Daisy Wright. 2011. Central Library, 650.142 W94n1
- **Guides through the Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre**
<http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>
Search:
 - **Getting Canadian Work Experience**
 - **Networking for Employment**

Questions? Please ask the Information Staff on Level 4, Central Library or telephone 604-331-3603.

Please note that the information in this guide is also available online through the Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre website at <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca/>.