

THE MENTORING SWITCHBOARD



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Immigrant Entrepreneurs: Multicultural Moguls

Two immigrant professionals from Philippines recognized an opportunity and seized it. Read about it [here](#).

Upcoming Networking Event

Come and build your network at the next *Mentoring Connections* networking event on Tuesday, October 27th. The IT themed event will have speakers from the industry to offer some valuable advice and information.

September 30 Networking Event

We only reserved the room until 8:00 PM. But at 8:10 the group of *Mentoring Connections* clients were still chatting, writing down each other's contact information, and looking for another person to chat with and another person's contact information to write down. The eager and motivated group could have used more time.

Attendees had just experienced an inspiring presentation from Lokesh Chaudry about the power of connections and were eager to get started. Lokesh, an immigrant himself, shared with those who attended how networking has helped him professionally. He provided advice and also offered tips about the skills that can be improved to become an effective networker.

[Take a look at some networking tips from the networking event](#)

[About Lokesh Chaudry](#)

[Upcoming Networking Events](#)

Meet a Mentee - Heru Prajogo

My mentor in the architecture field had extensive knowledge and experience both in Canada and the USA. He shared with me his experience from past projects, and I was able to learn about theory and practice. My mentor educated me about business ethics, building codes, Architecture Acts, professional associations, the certification process and other non-project issues. I feel that learning about these topics has prepared me to stand out from the rest of the competition. Meeting with my mentor gave me the opportunity to review my own research and understanding of Architecture in Canada. I found that there are unique practices that differentiate Canada from other countries. Other than learning from a local professional, I also benefited from the support my mentor gave me. He was a source of my positive outlook and made me feel at home in this new land. I believe that my knowledge about my field has improved greatly through my mentorship, and I am eager and excited to help build Canada.

Networking Tips

The group listened intently and gave Lokesh Chaudry their undivided attention as he delivered his engaging presentation on the Secret Power of Connections. Here are some of the tips he offered on how to build their network:

Find the connection - Make a connection by finding common ground with the person you are talking to. Learning about another person can assist you in maintaining a relationship in the future.

Become a true egalitarian - There is no telling what will happen in the future. Be an equal opportunity networker. Be open to network with everyone.

Use business cards - Collect business cards and hand out your own. When you take someone's business card, it is helpful to write down something about the person that you met. Although be aware that in some cultures, it is considered rude to write on the back of the cards in front of the person.

Keep it going - It can be difficult to stay in contact. However, an email or a brief phone call can go a long way in maintaining a connection.

If you would like a copy of Lokesh's PowerPoint presentation about networking, email [Mentoring Connections](#).

About Lokesh

Lokesh Chaudry currently works as a Senior Tax Manager at Ernst and Young. He moved to Vancouver from India in 1997. Despite his busy schedule, Lokesh has volunteered at retirement homes and is a valued volunteer at ISSofBC's *Mentoring Connections*. Lokesh is an ambassador for the mentoring program, and we are in awe of his kindness and generosity. Thank you Lokesh for all of your contributions to our program.

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