

# **Bridge Co-op Program**

## **Description:**

The Welcome Centre Bridge Co-op is a full year program designed to provide students with concentrated literacy and numeracy support combined with opportunities to explore career options through volunteer work experience. Students can continue to strengthen literacy and numeracy skills with the goal to return to their high school or work towards a transition to Invergarry's Adult Graduation Program and/or explore potential career pathways.

## **Target Participants:**

Immigrant youth aged 16 to 18 years who have arrived with one or more of the following experiences/challenges:

- Significant literacy and education gaps resulting in low English skills
- Significant social and communication barriers due to language and cultural differences
- Priority will be given to permanent residents

## **Program Goals:**

- Improve their ability to effectively communicate in English by building upon their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- Focus on the extending strategies needed to read, research, and write successfully in English through course work in academic language
- Develop numeracy skills and work towards completion of Math requirements
- Gain valuable work skills through the completion of a minimum 90 hours Work Experience (WEX-12A) with the possibility of a second work experience and WEX-12B credit.
- Learn about educational and trades programs and strengthen job search skills
- Develop meaningful short- and long-term goals for either education or career development
- Build life skills, social successes, and confidence through Skills for Success 12 core competencies
- Develop an understanding of Canadian culture and receive settlement support from SWIS and MCWs
- Increase awareness of available community services and how to access those services

## Referral Process:

School Counsellor and Teacher should discuss the suitability of this program with the student and parents and then complete and submit this [Bridge Co-op Referral Form](#) to the Welcome Centre.



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