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Webinar: Sheridan's International Alumni: Pathways to Triumphs

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(Standing by) .

(Standing by) Sheridan College Sheridan's International Alumni "Pathways to Triumphs" .

(Standing by) .

[MUSIC] .

>>Hello and good morning , afternoon , or evening , depending on where you're joining us from , welcome to to Sheridan's International Alumni "Pathways to Triumphs" webinar as part of International Education Week my name is Matt R e m p e I'll be your moderator for today what an exciting time it is , it's International Education Week which is obviously why we're hosting this event but it's also the first day of D u w a l i Festival of Lights so I wish you a happy one to all who celebrate it and it's also November which is national career month and the theme this month is it's possible and there's a conversation about career paths and what's possible in Canada and how appropriate is that given today 's webinar topic now before my excitement gets the better of me I have a few housekeeping notes for today 's event . In the stage chat box which is on the right-hand side of your screen , you'll see a link to access live closed captioning . If you choose to . And if you're experiencing any technical difficulties

or issues please send a chat in the stage chat and one of our organizers will help you out throughout the webinar we have a Panel Discussion taking place if you have anything you want to ask the panelists please make sure to pose your questions in the stage chat and we'll do our best to keep a lively dialogue and conversation going to engage you all . Before we get started I would like to provide a land acknowledgement we acknowledge the land for sustaining us and providing us with the necessities of life . This territory is covered by the Dish with One Spoon treaty and the two row woman upon treaty which emphasize joint stewardship , peace and respectful relations as we reflect on land acknowledgements let us remember we are all stewards of the land and of each other we recognize the land on which we gather has been and still is the traditional territory of several Indigenous nations including the Anishnab the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation since time immemorial numerous Indigenous peoples have passed through this territory and -- Sheridan affirms it's our collective responsibility to honor the land as we honor and respect those who have gone before us those who are here and those yet

to come we are grateful for the opportunity to be learning , working and thriving in this land .

Okay . So for today , in honor of International Education Week this panel will be featuring four proud Sheridan alumni who began their journey as international students we will visit -- we will revisit their time at Sheridan and celebrate their personal and career successes we'll be exploring what these grads found in their educational journey in Canada and what choices helped to shape their future I can't explain how thrilled I am for today 's session I had the quick pleasure of meeting with this panel beforehand in my short time I found myself filled with questions and desire to get them to know better here I'm in the career with integrative learning I get to help students fulfill their aspirations it's the best gig in town more personally speaking as a Canadian born individual as many of all privileges I've been in total and complete awe of international students incredible courage it takes to study in another country is beyond inspiring let's be clear postsecondary education is hard for everyone but for our international students who may not have the support of family here or a limited career network who may be learning new ways of

teaching and learning and a culture amongst college and peers and social circles I can only imagine how overwhelming that feeling must be so I actually conducted doctoral research exploring career transitions of international students in the spirit of how we might inform and improve practices in postsecondary education every time I spoke with an international student or alumni I was both humbled and inspired their stories of their challenges but also their successes can be so uplifting and incredible . And yes , it's true , perhaps it's not a perfect system in Canada to welcome international students into education and some of those systems and supports do require our collective axe but at the same time education in Canada can also be so very rewarding and enriching and we'll hear more about that today . Here at Sheridan we've had a long history of engagement of international ization we have welcomed over 8 2 00 from over 1 10 countries many have reported high satisfaction rates of their experiences at Sheridan I think we can all be proud of that our alumni are spread across 8 8 countries our faculty and employees bring rich international experience experiences to campus . Sheridan has a

reputation for producing grads that are globally and multicultural multiculturally aware and empathetic and workplace ready and poised to thrive in the global economy with a mindset and personal capacity to see through the eyes and minds of others . If you would like to learn more , perhaps one of my colleagues can share a link in the live chat to Sheridan 's international ization and global connectivity strategy . Okay . So I'll stop now because I know you're not not here to listen to me we all want to hear from our amazing panel I've asked each of the panel ist s to introduce themselves but here is quick summer of who is joining us Charuvi is a graduate of the Computer Animation program from 20 0 7 joining us from India where she's currently a film director producer and artist . Alice is the 2011 graduate of the Theatre Arts Technical Production program originally from Peru and has been a stage manager from graduation . Teenaz is a print journal ist in Pakistan she's a graduate of the Canadian Journalism for Internationally Trained Writers in 20 0 0 7 and works at the CDC . And Anika is a graduate of our Child & Youth Care program from Jamaica . Valedictorian . Congrats and currently works as an education assist ant at

the School Board . With no further ado , let's get started . To ensure we have an opportunity to touch on a wide range of topics I won't ask each panel ist to respond to each question but please put any questions you have in chat and I'll do my best to incorporate them . The first question is an easy one I hope and an open -ended one for you . If you could each tell us briefly about yourself , what inspired you to consider Canada for your postsecondary education . And what led you to Sheridan and we're going to start by first name alphabet alphabetically so Alice if you could answer the first question thank you .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Yes my name is Alice Ferreyra my prenuns are she/her and I was born in Lima, Peru . And I actually studied architecture from first . But it wasn't fulfilling me as much as I wanted it to . And I actually had my older sister move to Canada prior to me moving there .

So -- and I think we picked Canada because it was one of the countries that we're -- were kind of like we want more people to come to our country sort of thing . She went there first and I went to visit her . I visit visited her in December thinking it was the cold coldest month to go visit to see to see how bad it would get in the wintertime . But

then later I realized December is not the cold coldest month . Anyway , but I came to visit her because I wanted to see what opportunities there were for programs and opportunities and stuff like that . I thought I wanted to do set design for instance because I had an architectural background I thought it would be a good , easy transition . And I just wanted to find a program that was quick and showed me everything hands-on , everything . And those how I ended up choosing Sheridan . Back then it was a two -year program and I got to see a little bit of everything in the theater , technical theater side of stuff . And I actually found out that stage management was a - - like a department that kind of overlooks all departments in theater . So I just kind of fell into it . I just learned about it right then and there and it was great .

>>Thank you so much . Anika .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: Hi , everyone , thank you so much to the team for having me here today to share my story with you guys . And as Matt rightfully said , I am -- I was an international student from -- that immigrated from Jamaica . And it was a bit of a rough but smooth transition . Because I had my family here -- families here ,

which my sisters . And my aunts here , which helped with the transition .

However , later on , I will share an awesome story which led me to come to here . But overall , I decided to choose Child & Youth Care because I am passionate about children and youth and it is something that really helps me to , you know , grow and develop into the person I am today . And one short quick story that led me into this profession really quick , I had a cousin of mine , she was going through a rough time . And oftentimes I would go and visit her and just help her out with overcoming various depression and suicidal challenges and stuff like that . And her sister said to me , what do you want to study in school again and I said I want to study law she said no quit law and go study social work .

So -- .

(Chuckles) .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: That's how I started out into this profession . And when I was going through the list with my sister she said do you want to do social work or Child & Youth Care and Child & Youth Care was new to me I said because of my passion for children and youth , I am going to study Child & Youth Care .

>>I love it . Following your passion . And you're leaving us with bated breath for your story I know we'll get to it . Thank you , Charuvi would you introduce yourself , too , please .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Definitely , Matt well it's such a delight to be here and it's so amazing to hear these stories a little bit about myself I'm based out of India I did my graduation from Computer Animation in 20 0 7 worked for Canada for two years in animation came back to India and set up my studio in 20 0 9 with a clear focus on making high quality 3D animated content . Fast forward ten years . My studio now specializes in making short films , TV shows , films for museums . The latest content available for your viewing is on Disney hot start or legend of (inaudible) . The second season was just released and we nearly produced two hours of historical battle films of 18 th Century for a museum for history and currently working on TV pilots for museums .

In regards to why I and my parents opted for Canada and Sheridan in the first place , I personally wanted a multicultural exposure . And Sheridan is one of the best when it comes to the field of animation .

Also , as a woman , I wanted to go to a country which was perceived to be safe and Canada was the most suitable choice to live and study . So yeah , basically that .

>>Thank you so much . And did you want to tease us with a snippet of some of your animation work ?

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Oh , definitely , why not ? Should be -- should I be playing the video ? Okay .

[MUSIC] .

>>Wow , too cool . Awesome , thank you for sharing that with us , that's fantastic . Now we'll go to Teenaz , can you introduce yourself , please .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: Wow , Charuvi that was awesome and I'm definitely going to see this . And I think you have -- you have left big shoes to fill now that I'm introducing myself . I'm Teenaz Javat . I just want to clear one thing I didn't come here as an international student . But I came to Canada in '9 7 . And I was a journal ist in India and Pakistan . For a very short brief period of time . Like I just started off my career backtrack backtracking to '9 2 . So when I came here , I came with an 8 -month -old kid so I just decided it

was too complicated to figure out day care in the best of times but for somebody who would be working shift work , which you would be doing as a journalist I just decided to stay home had two kids and when my young youngest went to Grade 1 , I decided to go back to school .

And suddenly -- I live in Mississauga so I was looking up the newspapers to figure out can I even go back into journalism because Canada didn't recognize my degree or my experience as a lot of us know .

And there I saw this ad saying Canadian Journalism for Internationally Trained Writers starting in the winter of 20 0 7 like January of 20 0 7 and boy , I said , this is something so up my alley . And given that I live close to the college , I decided to go and go for the orientation .

And boy , I was sold . And I said , this is exactly what I'm looking for . I don't want to know how to find a story or to write a story . But I want to know a program which would allow me to work into the Canadian media . Because as you know , where I come from , India and Pakistan , it's rain raining stories . So it's not like pulling teeth or you're talking about animals or birds . It's just things happening .

And this program was like a Godsend to me . And lo and behold , I absolutely am so lucky that I happened to see it in the Mississauga news advertised . And I joined in . And the rest you will know as the program goes through . But it was the perfect bridge program for journal ist s who want to be writers in Canada . Because we already were all trained journal ist s , as we saw when we came in .

And that's how -- that's what brought me to Sheridan . And from there on , my journey has only been upwards and onwards . Thank you .

>>So incredible . Obviously we've got four incredible people who -- to learn more about their experiences . And it's encouraging to know the technical skills you learned at Sheridan have led to careers that seem to be prospering and incredible but I would like to take an opportunity to transition a little bit to how your experiences at Sheridan impact personal growth and personal development . And how did that help you be in these rewarding careers that you all seem so passionate about . And perhaps , Teenaz , you were just on screen , would you mind continuing with Question No. 2 and continuing .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: Sure , definitely .
Definitely I attribute a lot of my personal growth to what happened those two years at Sheridan -- I attribute a lot of my growth . Our program was actually -- except for one , most of us were residents or Canadian citizens by the time we rolled into this program . And we had 32 students . Most of us were mature students .

And literally we had a mini United Nations in our class . We had students from Iran , India , Pakistan , we had this Latin American contingent from Peru , Brazil , Argentina , yes . So it was like -- and just meeting everybody from every corner of the world , we literally -- I mean , it was a dream for a chase producer . You wanted somebody from somewhere and you just looked into your classroom around .

And we had a very committed -- Joyce B a n e she was the journalism coordinator for many , many years , I think she's retired now and she's the one who taught about lots of us journalists were coming into Canada and in those days it was like the point system it was not like you came in the media category .

And we were just lost in this landscape of print . At that time it was more of print . And that's what we had trained for .

And what Sheridan really -- that class was like a networking dream . Like you want wanted anything or any input into any story from anywhere around the world , you just had to look around .

And also our professors like starting with Joyce , I can't name the whole slew of everyone who taught they were from industry so they all worked at the Toronto Star or C B C or CTV and they were coming in to teach us and they were very generous with their network .

So the generosity of not only my colleagues and the generosity of our professors . And a shout shoutout to Sandy McCain who was the dean . They were so committed at that point at that point in time to get us all a footing in the newsrooms of various organizations .

Of course it didn't work out that way and sadly the program is no more . But it just fitted -- it was the right time . And I don't know what I would have done had I continued later and now there's nothing like that to plug into . Because like I said , Ryerson and many universities did have journal

ism programs but I didn't think I needed to spend four years learning something which I had already learned back home .

But here they fleshed out the details of how you could work in the Canadian media . And I'm eternally thankful for that . Thank you .

>>It sounds like a lovely class . I imagine being a new Canada with a young family and re-engaging in your career path to meet all of those people and to have a support system of student colleagues and faculty and staff and Sandy , who I adore , as well , is absolutely incredible . I'm so glad to hear that .

Anika , would you please share a little bit about your personal growth and professional development that led to your career path ?

Afternoon .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: Awesome thank you so much , that was a wonderful story , Teenaz . For me as I mentioned , coming from Jamaica , and being exposed to the high school system there it was very vibrant . Because I was like an active person in school , on campus , at my high school , so transitioning over to Sheridan , I brought that same spirit with me . Where being open and a people person and coming in , even

though it's a bit of a culture shock . Because you know , you're meeting people from different cultures . And I had to learn to adjust myself into the setting , the classroom , everything . And of course thankful to my sisters because they have gone through the Canadian school system here . So they walked me through what to expect . And just how to just grow up in the environment per se .

So a bit of that , so with them helping me to develop personally and of course having my other family members along supporting me , it helps to push me to navigate the school system .

A quick story , I remember the first time I had class in practice communication . It was with Professor Karen , Karen McClean . I believe she taught us . She's awesome . I mean , all of the professors . Pita , Julie , Terry who is no longer there . Every one of them , they were all amazing .

So I remember she told us to form a group , right ? Because we're going to work on some assignments . And transitioning coming from Jamaica , you know , you still have the Jamaican dialect . So I saw a few persons there who have the Black culture . So in my mind , I'm assuming

they are Jamaicans because Jamaica you see everyone of the Black culture , you know , so I said to them , so I'm going to be a little bit -- I'm going to transition into my dialect now so I said to them you have to put the chair over there so which means you have to put the chair over there

·
So everyone stood still and they were looking at me like , what is she talking about ?

(Chuckles) .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: And I'm like , okay . What just happened ? So that was my first shock

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The other shock for me really was lined paper , which is the -- this thing , this paper .

So in Jamaica we actually called it a folder leaf . And then when I asked one of the guys , I said can I borrow a folder leaf ? And he was like what is he talking about ? And I was like this thing over there and he was like the line paper you mean I was like oh . And that was another shocker for me . And from then I started to really take a backstage and learn how to , as I mentioned before , adjust myself into the Canadian system , into the Canadian school system . So from there I started to set goals for myself . I started to join

clubs and various organizations to help me to communicate in the professional Canadian way even though I haven't forgotten my Jamaican culture so I started out volunteering with leave the pack behind the International Student Association and the big one that took me a while to sign up was the Peer Mentor program I remember one guy from the international students he saw the great leadership on me and he said , you would be fit for a great Peer Mentor I was like , me , no , I can't do this . When I talk , my Jamaican dialect comes out . So I struggled a while to really overcome that barrier , the communication barrier .

And of course I talked to my professor , I remember Pita , he walked me through it and really helped me to navigate that communication barrier , right ? Because he's also an immigrant to Canada , as well .

So he helped me to overcome that .

And from there I started to develop that confidence . And I signed up for the Peer Mentor program . I did peer mentoring from 2013 onwards until I finished in 2018 . And I must say - - from 2016 until 2018 and I must say it was one of the best experiences I had at Sheridan I was

struggling through the three campuses from the Mississauga to Oakville campus and pwrrovrp ton , -- Brampton as well and I was talking to international students I remember some international students came to me afterwards saying I really thank you for being open and sharing with us . Because you helped to -- you helped me in terms of motivating me to continue on .

I've had experience where I speak to a lot of students who wanted to drop out of the Child & Youth Care course . And I just started to speak value in their life . Instead telling them that , you are coming up , you are finishing strong and you're graduating , you are going to complete your diploma and I started to speak positive things in their life and to date a lot of them can testify that I was a strong influence in their life in terms of helping them to walk through and finish strong .

And I transition transitioned from Sheridan you know going into practicum the same thing , I didn't drop my standard , I'm thankful for my practicum supervisors who helped shape me and mold me into who I am today and to date I haven't stopped my encouragement . I am still going on with my encouragement on my YouTube channel and my

podcast , tied to encourage me . And when you go on there I share encouragement from a Biblical standpoint to help young people and also adults who are transitioning over to become the very best in society .

So that's just a little bit of what I did . At Sheridan . Which helped to shape me you know and helped to develop my professional and personal growth .

Oh , one more thing . Sorry ; I don't want to go on . But I remember again this story in first year when I had Pita 's class and I remember I got the test results and I got a 50 % on there and I came home and I started bawling because you know international students we pay a lot of money to study so I'm like I came home and I said to my sister , I failed . I remember I said to her , I failed . She said , well , it's the first test . You have many more . What you have to do is work hard at the next one . And I made a goal right there , right on that day and I said , I am not going to get another 50 % or below a 50 % . And believe me , from that day until I finished , it was in my last year at Sheridan I got a 4 3 I was like , oh , no , and that's what really pushed me down from getting the high

honors because I set another goal to get the high honors .

So I just want to share quickly any international students out there , if you get a low grade , don't see it as a failure . See it as something that will push you into purpose , see it as something that will help you overcome any barriers or struggles you are faced with and know that you are unique and special and keep working -- keep working hard because you will finish strong . Thank you .

>>Wow , I don't even know what to say , so much of that I just want to bottle up and hear again . That was absolutely wonderful . As a career educator , part of the work I do is to encourage students to get involved and participate in programs . Like the Peer Mentor program and when you hear stories of how it works and how you're able to give back to your colleagues and friends and build your resume and find personal growth and discovery , as well , it's just so exciting so thank you so much for sharing those stories . That's incredible .

Okay . Moving on here , we would like to talk in a similar vein about lived experiences or experiences in general that have informed career

decisions and your path these days . And Charuvi , I was wondering if you might share a little bit about your career path and some of the experiences along the way and how that informed your decision making .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Sure , Matt , so in college specifically , I still remember the industry exposure that we received . The incredibly talented colleagues and classmates that I have met during my studies . And worked with both , they all had a very strong impact on me and how I run my studio currently .

My mentors were extremely supportive . While all of us had a very healthy competitive spirit . So when it came to work ethics or exposure , creating content , all of this exposure that we received at Sheridan really benefited us to have a much open-minded approach and understand qualitatively what can further be developed , how to make our content more mature . How to take criticism in a more productive manner .

So all of this has really benefited me as an entrepreneur . And as a filmmaker both .

>>Amazing , thank you so much for sharing . Alice , might I ask you the same question ? If you could just speak to some of your lived

experiences and how that's shaped and informed your career path .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Yeah , so I'm in the technical -- I was in the technical theater program . And a stage manager now in Ontario mostly . And I remember we had these great field trips where we went to the Shaw festival and the Stravford festival and we got to see their warehouse and we got to see how a change over happens like when they change the stage from one you know (inaudible) to guys and dolls and what that set change looks like and I remember sitting and watching and being in awe of jobs that nobody sees ever , nobody knows about . And they just happen . And you just get to experience like the fun parts of it all .

Not that working backstage isn't fun . But it's a different kind of fun .

So I remember being back there . And seeing the warehouse like filled with props and costumes of all periods and stuff and just being like , wow , this place is amazing . Like my ultimate goal is to stage manage a musical here . Because I'm a big musical fan . And lo and behold , this last season -- well , it wasn't a musical . There was music in it . But I got to stage manage Romeo and Juliet ,

which was awesome . But I think something that I would have -- I didn't know I needed at the time when I was studying at Sheridan was just some of the obstacles that you get from being an international student . Like you can't upgrade just work anywhere however you want . You need a work permit . And I couldn't join my Union equity until I was a permanent resident so I had to get my permanent resident first and that's not a quick step to take .

So I wish there had been a little bit more of a guidance in that sense . Because I learned a lot . And I was exposed to -- exposed a lot at Sheridan but the practicality of what do I do once I leave , that was very eye opening to be like , oh , I can't just do whatever I want . I really need to like get experience for three years first , even though I'm ready to do it all . And that really decides what kind of jobs you take and stuff like that when you graduate . But yeah , I always had that goal from the exposure I got from school .

>>You know , it's incredible the folks here at Sheridan who are introducing programs to students . It's complicated . These life choices are significant and to pursue a path of education hopefully that matches matches your passion and

your future direction it's hard enough to make those decisions alone . Add on the complexities of post graduation for international students who want to stay in Canada . You know , there's certainly so many factors . It's got to be incredibly difficult to understand what you're getting into sometimes . And I imagine for some students they hope for the best and it sounds like for you , Alice , it worked in a really great way so I'm so encouraged by that . So I have an open to the panel question . Anybody who wants to jump in , please do .

But leaders often credit mentors and allies for helping them get to where they are . The role -- what role has mentor ship and ally ship played in your own education and career journey ? And if you have any stories of mentors that you would like to share or any experiences with that , please do jump in . We would love to hear about it . Charuvi , it looked like you went off mute , come on up .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Sure , Matt . I have really fond memories of Sheridan . We had mentors like Mark Simon and Jean . I'm not sure whether they are still acting as mentors at the school . But back in 1997 , they were a real

backbone to our education and -- back in 2007 they were a backbone to our experience especially James who was very receptive to my approach in creative thinking and not just me every single international student over there .

And in fact creative thinking and stories , both of them , what we wanted to work with . Also the fact that the industry exposure . And in class the cycles is something that really instilled confidence and our mentors were very supportive of that so like any human being all of us are very skeptical when it comes to pitching , speaking in the classroom , sharing our ideas , being receptive to hearing back questions . So that's something that they really pushed us .

And I very sincerely thank them for that . That they really instilled the confidence and equipped us far more to be receptive to criticism and be aware of what a creative storytelling really is . So basically that .

>>It's amazing , I've had the good pleasure of working with many students and faculty colleagues that work in the arts . And criticism , it's a tough one , right ?

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Yeah .

>>It's required to pitch and propel you but you also don't want it to crush your motivation and enthusiasm . Do you remember any specific moments with any specific faculty or colleagues that helped you through a tough moment of criticism or anything in particular there ? Or is it more just a general sense of how it all came together ?

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Well in regards to criticism I was I was very open to criticism but I was not open to publicly speaking and laying out my ideas so when you have a bunch of classmates right in front of you and the moment you propose an idea you obviously have cross questioning and they cross question your research or concept or narrative as to why -- what's the angle ? Why is this climax happening like this ? So all of that really enabled me . So initially I was very skeptical of speaking out but then when I used to , all of those questions would help me understand what the story 's approach should be . And where exactly I'm lacking . And where should I further , you know , -- how should I improve my storytelling further . And I still remember during our final assignment , there was a film that I had made that was called (inaudible)

much before James Cameron came with his version .

So this particular film was about God versus television because television before all the other platforms we had television . So it was about him lose losing his status when it came to television .

So I still remember this conversation with James and Mark . And Mark was a bit opposed to it . But I was so excited with the idea that I was opening up all of the images in front of him to explain this is the psyche and this is taken from another Japanese artist and what their story -- what the story line is and James further on helped me out and eventually Mark and James both sat down and helped me process both the idea and the story .

Yeah , and all of my classmates were supreme supremely supportive . And I still remember during the final stages of submitting the assignments , whosoever is finishing first they would help the other classmate to finish their film so that used to be always the case if someone was finishing before , they would sit with the other student and help them finish their film . So I still miss that . I still miss that passion , that creative

urge that we all had . So yeah , it was a really fun , competitive environment that we had .

>>It's lovely when you can be learning with peers that inspire you through competition but in the same token are willing to help you out that sounds like a lovely class environment .

Any other panel ist s in the spirit of mentor ship and allies who have supported you along the way , any individuals or groups you would like to share with us or a story of something you remember where a moment where you needed a mentor the most and they came and helped you and inspired you .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: I can speak to that . For me , I have a lot of mentors in my life . Apologies , my home phone is going off so if you hear a noise in the background , that's that .

As I was sharing , the faculties at Sheridan in the Child & Youth Care program , they are absolutely amazing . I remember when my grandmom -- when my grandmother passed away , she passed away in 2019 , some of the faculty still to this day , they encouraged me on that , as well . But just to backtrack , when I was at the verge of like -- it was like going into graduation . And I had failed one of one of the assignments I

mentioned about the 4 3 that I worked with a friend of mine on this assignment . And I'm not saying you should not work with friends . But an advice from me , it's not advisable to do so . Because sometimes when the friend knows that you are very high competitor they will kind of give the work on you . So I remember I failed that assignment . And a few of the faculties encouraged me in terms of started to remind me who I am and started to remind me of my why . Why I came to Sheridan in the first place and how I will finish strong and they encouraged me on some of my grades I got and started to boost my self-esteem and confidence up a little bit and pushed me into becoming the person I am really . And in practicum , I had two amazing practicum supervisors , Nisha and Terry . And one thing Terry always told me is never have any regrets in life . Because if you go at something , mistakes are something to push you into your purpose really .

So what she reminds me to do is you know , sit back , observe , and as the situation -- analyze the situation and see how I could go around it , you know , the next shot when I get another chance to do it again .

And when I do it again , see how I can avoid from not making the same mistakes again .

And Nisha always encouraged me , even though I started out young , she started -- she is saying she always shared with me that even though I'm young , I can still make impact wherever I go . So she always encouraged me to continue to push on that . And to date , I have some amazing people in my life from a church organization called policy vibration an online organization where we plan together and help people to hear the Word of God really . And they play a significant role in my life into helping me to come out of my shell a little bit more . Some of the them are tuning in today and I just want to say thank you , guys , so much for tuning in .

And they help to push me , you know , to develop that confidence . And to grow really into the person I am today and last but not least I cannot leave out my family . They are like my backbone . Even though sometimes some things that they may say , it may hurt , but you know what , it's for the better . It's for the better . They are there to push us and to really help us to grow .

So mentor ship is important . We cannot go on on our day-to-day life without someone helping us

to cross over those roadblocks and whispering some positivity in our lives today .

>>That's great advice , and when a mentor is part of or reminds you to remember your why as you put it , that's a great reset and focus .

A colleague of mine , an Associate Dean at Sheridan has in their office on their board the word fail and typically it's used in sort of a negative way but fail can actually stand for first attempt in learning and it sounds like your experience is you have those learn learning moments and you rebounded from it and found great academic success . That's super cool .
Congrats .

We have had a question from the floor , thank you so much , colleagues , for typing it in . I wanted to pose it at this moment as we talk about mentors and connections . And the question is staying in close touch with colleagues from your class or classmates . And I'm curious , Teenaz , you were talking about the incredible group of students that you were studying with . Or Alice , maybe if you could jump in . Do you stay in touch with any of your colleagues and graduates to this day and what might look like ?

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: Do you want me to address this ? Yeah . Yes , definitely , in fact the reason I'm where I am is because of my classmates . And that's a very interesting story . Because I wouldn't want to say her name because I haven't told her that I'm going to be talking about her .

But she got -- we all got intern ships . Joyce really went out on a limb to make sure that all 3 2 of us got good intern ships . And I had interned at the Toronto Star for six weeks along with a colleague .

And well , the six weeks ended . And we were done . And I was just curious to know where I could find another job . And this classmate of mine had interned at the C B C . She was from Iran . That's all I can tell you .

And I was like really upset that -- I said , now , what do I do , I paid before and after school for my children so I was like bleeding money . And with no -- and I knew that it wouldn't even pay the day care bills forget about other bills .

And she said she had interned at the C B C and in one of the meetings she suggested to a producer that , well , her intern ship was going to come to an end . And her English was not on par

. She was a fantastic journalist . But just that English just didn't reach that mark so she said if that's -- if English is just the reason you're not hiring me at the C B C , then you should meet my colleague and friend , I had become a friend to her , Teenaz , and interview her and if that's the only thing that's stopping you from hiring somebody who is not as privileged as Matt , as you introduced yourself , right on the top of the session .

And that person said , okay , have her come in I'll interview her in the atrium because they don't even let you come up if they are not interested in you . So I met him in the atrium and boy , he said , well , you need to meet somebody who can hire you because he was definitely not the one to be hiring me .

And then of course I met the person who eventually hired me . Again , it was in the atrium of the C B C building because like I said , they don't take you up .

But what helped was that not only my colleague introduced -- my friend and my classmate introduced me to this person . But our professors , who were also working at the C B C , they were willing to put in a word for you . The magic word

reference s at the end of your resume , that's where it came in . Because you had a buy -in already before you went in for the interview that you knew somebody from the organization , who was willing to put in a good word for you . And that's where you realize that how important it was that our mentors and our professors like even the intern ship which I got at the Toronto Star , I need to give a shout shoutout to Don who was the ombudsman and he taught us media law and ethics because given the test at the C B C which everyone has to take before you join , even to lead yourself to give that test is a big ask even to get that first interview and for that I really wish to thank my classmates and my professors who -- in journal ism as we all know , you are only as strong as your network . And Sheridan is the place that classroom of 3 2 from all over the world , they started my networking . And I'm still continuing with it . And I don't think I would be anywhere without it .

>>That's amazing . What an incredible story . I'm so glad that your network appears to be thriving and doing incredible and I'm glad it started here at Sheridan . That's great . Alice , what about you ; anything in the spirit of mentors or

classmates that you're staying in touch with that you would like to share ?

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Yeah , I still keep in touch with two really good friends that I met there . They are my best friends now . And both of them have actually changed their career paths . But they definitely have transferrable skills from what they learned at Sheridan . And I think a huge thing for me is just the fact that they understand my lifestyle and what the theater industry lifestyle is like is huge . Is huge . Because not everyone understands . Like a lot of people have 9 to 5 jobs Monday to Friday and that's not really the case when it comes to the Theatre Arts . So it's nice to be able -- it's nice to be able to talk about my experiences and my job and the things that come up and things I've had -- things I've had to miss just because of the type of lifestyle it is . It's really nice to have that support system that understands where you're coming from . And the kind of lifestyle that you live .

So that's been actually really rewarding to have

And with the friends I've met now in the industry , I've noticed more and more , there's just a lot of

support like if you can't take a job , there's a lot of references of like I know so-and-so .

So it's like a very nice community where I think earlier on in my career , I was very protective and -- it was very protective and nobody wanted to -- I'm not going to give you this lead or else they will end up taking my job but I feel like now it's becoming more open and more like sharing .
Yeah .

>>And sometimes that's just it , right ?
Networks are established through trust and through relationship and you get to know people and demonstrate the type of person you are .
And it becomes a little bit easier to help each other out . That's super cool .

Okay . We're going to go into what I hope is a fun -filled rapid question session . One of the things that I send to find really interesting is when we ask folks from other countries who join us in Canada just quick questions like what was the thing that surprised you most ? I know we talked about the weather real quick . That's a favorite of many from warm warmer climates but if we could just go around just real quick in a sentence or a word what surprised you when you first arrived in Canada . Alice , you're up .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Double double . I was like what is that ? And people would say do you want a double double . Do you want a double double . I was like I don't even know what you're talking about . A double what . So that was a huge one for me . And yes I do like double doubles .

>>I was going to say have you come around , double doubles the way to go .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Yeah but I was like I have no idea idea what you're talking about .

>>Awesome we do love our t i m m i e s around don't we Charuvi do you have one .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Matt I think when I arrived in September I guess that's when the semester starts . So semester -- September for me specifically in Canada was relatively in a more cold colder zone . I would still be wearing short sleeved shirts . And the moment I step into the dorm , I still remember everybody , all the students , were just jumping into the pool . They had those inflatable pools right outside . They were roam roaming around in their shorts and I was like oh, my God . So I was taken aback because my -- you know -- the amount of cold that I can take of course being in India is far -- I mean ,

I can't take winters that well to be very honest . So I mean minus zero is unheard of . I was like wow they are wearing shorts . They are going for -- they are wanting to have a sun bathe and I'm here covering myself in winter clothing . So yeah . And the other thing was all of the cabdrivers were Indian . So in a more -- that was something that was very new to me . I never anticipated that .

So it was great to connect with them . Because they felt that , okay , she's from our homeland . There was a lot of connectivity . And they kept , you know , whisk whisking me to interesting restaurants where I can go and eat or where I should stay . So that was quite interesting . .

>>That is so cool . Yeah , Canada , right ? As we are on the precipice of winter coming . Get ready . It's about to get cold . I suspect you won't be experiencing that Charuvi so you're okay .

What about Teenaz or Anika , do you have any fun -filled memories of what surprised you when you arrived in Canada .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: I think mean mine is also weather related like Charuvi . I came but it wasn't related to Sheridan . Because Sheridan came almost 10 years after I had already stayed in

Canada . But I think it was like , oh , it's going to get cold so my daughter was like -- by the she was like 10 months . And I remember I had taken her to somebody 's house . And I had layered her in seven layers of clothes . I don't even know how she survived . Because the kid was like this , like , couldn't move , couldn't do anything . And I recall the person at whose place we had been invited which were very far and few between because we were like -- we didn't know many people .

And they said , are you even crazy ? Like this kid is going to suffocate and die because you put seven layers of clothes . Like anything that I could find . She said kids only feel as hot as you do so don't think they are going to feel any cold colder or hotter . So yes , that was -- that has stuck with me the seven layers of clothes and not anymore . Not ever . But yes , that is something again related to the cold . Because the double double came much later when I started getting involved in the community because my involvement with the community was with the children as they started growing older , as a lunchroom supervisor or volunteering in the schools , that was my segue into opening up into

the community . But otherwise , I was pretty much isolated in my low rise where I was living . Because all -- I think the first adult I even spoke with after my husband was the Sheridan community . It was always -- because it was always something to do with the children . So yes that was my seven layers of clothes .

>>I don't even know how you can put seven layers of clothes on but I think it's possible when appropriately motivated .

(Chuckles) .

>>Anika , what about you , any fun memories ?

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: Well , I can attest to Teenaz because when I came , I had to dress up really , really , really like that , too .

Hi , Anita thank you so much for joining , Anita , she's an international coordinator . I met her in Jamaica prior to coming to Sheridan . She was also a great instrument instrumental support in my journal at Sheridan . So for me , one , it was the bus . Because in Jamaica , when you're on the bus , when you arrive at your destination you call out to the driver and you say one stop . So when I was on the bus , I was going to say one stop . And then I look over and I saw everyone pulling this yellow line . So I'm like , okay .

So what are they doing that for ? And when it pulls , I saw where it says stop requested . So I'm like , oh , okay . So that's what you have to do to indicate to the driver to get off the bus . And then the other shock for me really -- it's not really a shock it was a surprise when I saw the snow for the first time my friend from Kenya , we actually laid on the floor outside like kind of like making snow angels and we were picking it up in our hands like this is what it feels like . You know , it was just an amazing thing . So those are two of my most memorable times .

>>That's awesome . Thank you , thank you for all sharing . And we've passed this session of the rapid fire test but we're going to have one more near the end .

I do want to ask some specific questions of you so Charuvi your career path is so cool , seeing your studio and your success , it's just amazing . I'm just curious if there were any roadblocks that you encountered along the way to get to where you are or even just to share a little bit about your story to establish your studio and clearly the work is incredible we were all tease teased by your video and loved it so tell us a bit more about that , please .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Thank you , Matt . So there have been a couple of roadmaps roadblocks I'll say two of them to begin with the animation industry in India it flags strong women at the top but its in a very patriarchal culture so in my initial years it was very hard for male subordinates to accept a female boss and it actually took a good amount of years for them to finally accept me and come to terms with it . So now I will still say things are getting far better with time but it's still a few years away from the scenario to be completely idle .

And secondly , when I started off , it was very difficult to find work . Because the industry in India is competitively very small and million dollar budgets were simply unheard of . And like -- unlike animation studios like Disney , Warner Brothers . So you know who are actually turning out \$1 00 million budget systems . So these are the major roadblocks . But now considering it's been a good 12 , 15 years , we have overcome these roadblocks and things are generally changing .

>>And where are you at with your studio and your work today ? What are you focused on ?

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: So currently we are doing a lot of television pilots . There are two TV shows that they are working on besides television pilots and there are a lot of museums we're working on . So it's based part (inaudible) and part historical so there are about five or six projects in the pipeline they are all very exciting , they are very different . So that's what drives us , that's what drives any creative person in the industry . So yeah .

>>Well , you are totally inspiring . Not only does your work speak for you and your success but to come back relationships amongst genders , as well , and some of the challenges along that path is something to be very proud of and I'm glad you're doing what you're doing and joining , it's so cool .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Thank you , thanks , Matt .

>>Teenaz , I was going to ask you a little bit more about networking and contacts and the transition back to work with a young family as a new Canada . I was curious , is there anything else about your career journey and your experience building a career in Canada that you would like to share with everyone .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: I think my trajectory started at Sheridan like I named a couple of my professors . And I think it was just building up on the networks , which worked .

And in fact , it's opened up wider doors . Not just into my work space . But we have started something called the shoe project which is like I think nobody knows me and knows that I'm not going to talk about the shoe project . So that's very near to my heart it's an artist collection of women who share their immigration stories through the lens of a shoe . And that hearsay completed 10 years . It was started by Katherine G o b i e r she was the director and she still is involved in the shoe project . And Katherine was one of the faculty which taught us journal ism .

It was like literally the class where we were , she said this is something I want to take beyond Sheridan . So that's what she -- in 2011 a couple of women led by Katherine we started meeting at the museum and we started talking about the shoes , our immigration stories through the lens of shoes . And it's taken over . And now we have -- the shoe project has different chapters all over Canada . I think we have around seven or eight chapters . And we are not only on print , online ,

and all of the different media that you can expect . So that , again , is something which like as Katherine said she was inspired by the women and men she taught at Sheridan to take this into the community . And now we have it all over .

So again , I would say that the networking that started in my classroom in the S C A T building , second floor , that's taken us all over .

And it's not just -- it's really -- I would be remiss if I don't say that it was a sad thing that the course didn't -- that Sheridan didn't continue with this course because I even came back to teach in that class for almost three years . And then I taught in the broad journal ism probably under Nicole Blanchard . But this course , I think it's continuing in a different form with women and the shoe project .

So yes , and I'm still with the shoe project . And we have -- we have kind of taken it further I would say and that could be anyone . It could be international students . You just have to be an immigrant , a woman and a refugee who have come to Canada and tell your story so that's an interesting segue into what Sheridan has led to . And I'm still -- and I can't imagine my life without either of these , the journal ism program at

Sheridan as well as the shoe project . So that's my involvement going forward .

>>Thank you , what an incredibly creative way to describe stories . I'm assuming the shoe project online is the place if anyone wants to learn more they can go .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: Yeah , I can share the link .

>>Amazing . I Googled it , it comes up fast .

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: There you are . That's the thing .

>>They are an Instagram , they are online , I'm sure you can find it quick , thank you . Okay .

Anika , I have some notes that you were considering Kingston university in Jamaica and ultimately ended up in Sheridan , of course our Valedictorian , top of the class , would you just share a little bit more about that and your decision to come to Sheridan and I can only imagine how proud your family is of your accomplishments . Tell us a bit more about that .

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: They were even proud you know and in honor of my late grandmother , this is something that she framed for me when -- after I finished my -- after I finished my studies , at Sheridan . It was a bit of a transition after .

Because I finished high school in Jamaica , you're open . You're doing so great . And when you finish , you are hoping to go into a college or university . And after you apply to those colleges , you got turned down , you started to get a little bit you know discouraged , right ? And after I mentioned previously that I wanted to study law . Right ?

So when I submitted all my documents to the University of Technology . And I went . I didn't get any call . My cousin , he came up from Kingston . And he saw me , and he said , what's going on , aren't you going to school ? Aren't you working ? What's happening ? And I said to him , I am trying . I submit my applications to the university . I haven't gotten anything .

And he said to me , well , get up , we are going to go you know to the university tomorrow morning . And I was like go in there ? They haven't said anything . And he said , yes , we're going through by faith .

And he said , you know , if we don't hear anything from them , okay , what's our Plan B ? So your Plan B is you're going to complete math again and you're going to do some more other stuff .

So we go -- we went to the university with two things . One , to get a good news from them that I would be enrolled into the law program . And then , two , with the Plan B , that if I don't get anything from them , then I will go on to finish my math and other subjects that I failed in .

So when I went there , the lady said to me , okay , your grades are low . You are not successful you know to enroll in our law program . Of course I felt discouraged . So then little did I know that God was up to something great . So after I walk away from that , as I said , my cousin and I , we had two plans and I walked away from that one . And went ahead , I completed math . And you know the year went on . And then boom , Sheridan sent me the notification .

And it was a surprise . Because my sisters , they had applied for me to Sheridan to George brown , to Seneca . And all three colleges gave me confirmation that I am accepted to enroll -- to come to their college . One university turned me down . But I got three yeses .

And I just you know want to thank God for that big surprise .

And I left with the -- with the hopes in mind that coming here to Canada , it's going to be different .

So when I came , when I started Sheridan , I started Sheridan with three goals in mind . One that I'm going to make and create a huge impact on campus . Two , that I'm going to graduate as the class Valedictorian . And three , with high honors .

So those were my three main goals that I started Sheridan with .

And when I started , as I shared with you , I was actively involved in campus , in the Peer Mentor program . And there from then I started making an impact on campus . And my next goal was to graduate as the class Valedictorian so I went and made sure I got my A 's , my A+ 's and all of that . So when I got the 50 % I got discouraged because I'm like you're going to throw me off my goal ? I'm finishing strong , I'm graduating as the Valedictorian . And then in my last semester because every year police foundation and Child & Youth Care , they rotate with selecting their Valedictorian . So when Julie came to me and she said , you know , this year it seems like police foundation is going to be choosing the Valedictorian . I'm like , no , I want to be the Valedictorian . That's my goal . And she said , you know what , if we were supposed to

select the Valedictorian , you would be our choice . And that really touched my heart . Because I said to her , that was a goal of mine when I started Sheridan . And she said she's going to check and then when she she could and came back she said , congratulations you are our class Valedictorian .

And you know finishing -- I didn't finish with my high honors but I finished with honors and I'm thankful to God for helping me to accomplish those amazing goals . And I just want to thank my grandmother for the amazing frame that she did . It was my story that was published in the Jamaica observer . And it starts with , I was destined for great greatness and I knew what my aim was . So if you go online you can search Jamaica observe , type my name , Anika McNaught and you will see my awesome story that's been published in 2018 . And I'm just thankful for God . And it goes to show that when you speak positive things over your life , it will come to pass .

>>Thank you so much for sharing . You know , when we were talking about this webinar , I knew we were going to have a whole heap of fun and explore with you but I didn't realize you were

going to take me on a emotional roller coaster , as well thank you for sharing so much of yourself with us . Alice , I have another question for you .

Your career has led you to working in large scale production s at well known theater venues such as Stratford festival the tarragon theater I would love if you could tell us more about that but how does it feel knowing you're directly impact impacting the Canadian theater industry ? ?

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Yeah , it's a bit wild . Especially now with the pandemic pandemic and everything , it's really forced a lot of industries to just think , again , about how work is being done and how workers are being treated and stuff like that . So I've definitely been quite involved in being a part of that called shift of work-life balance . And just diversity and inclusion and even tearing down the patriarchy , stuff like that .

So it's been really interesting to be a part of that

And you don't need to be in like a big committee in order to do that sort of stuff . You can do that in any rehearse rehearsal hall . Like if you're following those rules for yourself , then that type of energy will come to you , as well .

And it feels really neat to realize the power that your voice has . And to make change in the industries that you are . So yeah , I'm very hopeful of where our industry is going with that culture shift . And yeah , even in the small smallest of ways , I try to do that in my own industry .

So -- and it does feel weird I still have moments where I'm like , I can't believe I'm in Canada . I can't believe this is where I live . I can't believe it's snowing again .

(Chuckles) .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Stuff like that .

>>Well , for what it's worth , we're glad you're here in Canada . And I applaud you doing the work that you're doing . You know , much of the cultural shifts that our society is experiencing in diversity and inclusion takes a fair amount of emotional capital for everyone who genuinely wants to make positive change and being part of that I know takes its toll but it's so important . I'm glad you're experiencing change in your sector .

Now , I've been watching for questions from the audience . And I think I'm up to date . But I also promised our panelists that we would conclude on time .

So I've got two more questions . We are going back to rapid fire .

So brace yourselves .

We need to be quick because we are running out of time . But if you could just quickly share with me a favorite spot you had on campus . Or a particular memory of being on campus , just something neat that stuck with you since your Sheridan days . Does anyone have one , I see you all looking into your memory banks .

(Chuckles) yeah ,

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: Yes , I have one . We used to -- a quick one , we used to come to school 7 to 10 in the evening s and all of Saturday . So on Saturday we used to have a picnic in the summer , we went through summer , as well , because this was like a quick course . We had to be out of there .

So you know just when you enter the skate building there's a little garden out there so we used to sit in that garden and bring our own food , again , from different parts of the world . And I recall Paul Hamilton used to be the Saturday teacher and he would come by and we would also share our meals with him so that's a lovely memory which I can still paint that picture in my

mind of this awesome picnic every Saturday for all of summer . And we used to meet up there . And just share stuff .

>>Awesome . I love it . Anyone else ?

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: For me I used to love to see the S , the big S , when it lights up . And that was amazing . My chill spot , it's going to sound weird to a lot of people . But it's the library . I just loved sitting in there everywhere just exploring the library , chit chatting with friends . That library at the Brampton campus has a lot of memories . We shed tears , we laughed , we had fun in that library .

>>Amazing .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: For us , in the tech program , it was just basically where we had most of our classes , which was in the basement , because nobody ever went down there from other programs because why would they ? So it was just like our little hallway . And we would just lay down on the concrete floor and nap there sometimes . It was just like our area that nobody really -- and if somebody like happened to pass by there , we would be like , where did they come from ?

(Chuckles) .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: It was just nice to be in that hallway and just knowing where people were going from like the paint shop or the car shop , the stage . It was just that little hallway .

>>I know that little hallway very , very well , it actually connects to the office where the folks I work with work as well . How about you Charuvi , do you have a memory of a physical spot .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: A spot , yeah , I was trying to recall . Interestingly it was the animation lab .

(Audio lost) .

>>I'm a-- I'm afraid we lost her right at the best part right when she was talking about the animation lab but if she's able to join back , perhaps she can share that story with us . Okay . We have one more question . I would like to pose to you all as sort of concluding remarks that you might share with us . Having been through the experiences you've been through , is there any particular advice that you would have for international students ? As you think about some students that might be at Sheridan right now or future students that work at Sheridan that will inform us , what advice would you give ?

>> ANIKA McNAUGHT: Are you hearing me ? Okay . All right . I just want to speak to those , yeah , the international students who have traveled all over . Know your why . Know why you started . And what your aim is . Set goals . And those will help you to accomplish your diploma diplomaings diploma , your degree , whatever you are going for and never listen to the negative . Because the negative only causes you to be depressed and it damages you mentally , emotionally , physically , all of the a l l y s you can think about and it can cause you to be locked in and placed in a shell where you won't see the bright light at the end of the tunnel . And always stick to -- form or stick to a strong support group that can help you navigate good times . If you had communication barriers like I did , know you are unique , you're special , God made you that way . Communicate freely how you want to communicate because , hey , you are going to be the next man or the next woman that's going to create impact all over the world . Thank you .

>>Great advice , remembering your why , I love it . Alice , Teenaz , who wants to start , Alice , please .

>> ALICE FERREYRA: Mine is also a why actually and it's basically just ask . Ask why . Why certain things are a certain way . And most of the time the answer is , because it's always been this way . But it's just because -- it hasn't been thought any other way . So that's always a good exercise for everybody . And no matter whether you're in school or once you graduate . Like why does this happen this way ? And maybe there are good reasons why . But maybe the reason is because it's been done this way for 20 years . So it's always a good thing to be like , oh , yeah , maybe it's time to revamp that . So it's another why .

>>Also great advice . The academics in the room will be talking about critical thinking and challenging norms and that's fantastic . We all should be . Thanks , Alice . Teenaz , do you have any advice for our international students ?

>> TEENAZ JAVAT: I don't know whether I could speak to that because I was never an international student but it is just my two cents worth and it's forget about the W . But it is know your worth . Because international students float universities in Canada to a large extent simply by the fact that you pay 3 to 4 times the fees charged

by -- what my kids would pay or what I would have paid . So definitely you play a very big role in funding . And you are beyond bums on benches . You need to know that try and get as much as possible out of the dollar that you pay into it .

And also , industry needs to get a buy -in with that when hiring international students , they are not just good for being the waiter in a restaurant or giving you your Tim Horton coffee . They need to be able to work , to be able to survive . And not merely at survival jobs . So I think it goes both ways . Students need to know their worth . And I'm sure the universities know their worth more than anybody else . And industry , when they need jobs , they need to be given as much of an opportunity as say my kids would get . That's what I would like to have a takeaway from this .

>>That's great advice . It builds confidence and worth . And our employer communities and our academic communities . All should be part of ensuring our international students , our new Canadians , are all successful . So that's fantastic advice . Charuvi , I think you're back . You were telling us about the animation studio .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: I'm pretty much back .

>>I'm also asking for any advice you might have .

>> CHARUVI AGRAWAL: Sure so just to answer the previous question very quickly , it was the animation lab because we were there 24 /7 . So I really have fond memories of the animation lab . And just to complete for this particular answer , I completely echo with Teenaz . In regards to making best use of their time in Canada . And also , I strongly feel that as an international student , one must try and get experience as much as they can in these initial years . Because these formative periods , the exposure that you get , you know , it goes miles in shaping who you are and your career .

So yeah , definitely this .

>>Well , thank you , all , for the insightful advice . A bit that I would add is there's so many folks I know at Sheridan who are all dedicated to the success of all of our students and our international students and sometimes the worst feeling that we experience is when an international student maybe doesn't ask for help or doesn't ask for the supports or services or

participate in what's here for them . So if there are any international students on the line , please know there are all kinds of people who care about you , want you to be successful and there are supports and services at your fingertips , sometimes we just need to know you're looking for a little bit of support . So we are at the conclusion of this Panel Discussion . And I just want to take a moment to acknowledge that there are some folks behind the scenes that have worked real hard to make this webinar possible . Our colleagues from the Alumni Department , the events department , the international department , I just want to extend our collective thanks for supporting our panelists and myself and promoting this incredible event to your networks .

And I do want to just remind folks , it's International Education Week , the week is still going , there's lots of great stuff to get involved in . There are other webinars that you may be interested in on November the 8th , exploring a new praxis for internationalization is available at 12 Noon Eastern standard as well as November 11th there's a local to global imperative event . And on November 12th , the internationalization and refugee education event is at 11:30 Eastern

Standard perhaps my colleagues who are supporting the event could share the links to more information on those events in the chat .

And then most importantly , our panel ist s , hey , thank you , thank you for sharing your time with us , your stories with us , being so open about your lives , your family , your motivation and the ups and downs that you've had in your experiences . You know , I feel very moved and inspired and I have no doubt that the audience is feeling the same way , your time and your stories have been a gift . And we can't thank you enough .

And with that being said , with three minutes of time to spare , I think I'll just take this moment to say that the webinar is concluded . And when you're ready to leave , you can close your browser s and I thank you for joining us here at Sheridan , panel ist s , I would love it if you could stay and we could chat real quick before you exit but to all who participated and asked comments in the chat and left us some questions , I thank you all , thank you . This concludes our webinar .