



Issue 10: August 2019

WORK-WISE

Keeping you current on North Okanagan's employment scene



The Youth Edition

READ THIS STUFF. GET HIRED.

Guess what? At WorkBC Vernon we have a brand new Youth Resource Centre just for our younger job seekers. Look for work from the YRC while you listen to tunes, chat with friends, and crack a joke or ten. The YRC is chill, inclusive, accessible, and it features:



- cafe-style seating
- speedy wifi
- Indigenous graffiti painted exclusively for the space
- a bunch of expert jobbers kicking around to answer your questions on everything from which employers pay the most to which ones are cool with anxiety



Pop in for our soft launch August 19 or our grand opening September 19 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.



Need a job? Blocked by nerves? We get it, we've been there too. That's partly why we put a bunch of our workshops online — so you can start from home, one small step at a time. Our online resume workshop, for example, walks you through the whats and whys of a good resume, and at the end creates a personalized resume for you that you can fine tune, print, and actually use for job search. Ask us how to log in for this or any of the workshops below:

- Cover Letters
- Interviews
- Networking
- Job Search
- Targeting your Market



YRC Scavenger Hunt

We want you in our new YRC! So...be one of the first five youth to find these five items in our new space and we'll hook you up with a \$20 Starbucks card.

- An affirmation
- A rainbow
- The words "Sacred Salmon" in Syilx
- A job lead
- A resume tip



Bring your answers to Kari or Margo to win.

Are you 18 to 24 and looking for work? You could be eligible for the Get Youth Working program, which offers employers a wage subsidy to hire you. Check out getyouthworking.ca to apply.

It's not always easy putting yourself in front of an employer. That's why at the YRC, we often bring them to you. Here are a few who have stopped in recently:

- Eatology
- Vantage One
- Kingfisher
- Staples
- Bigfoot RV
- Alpine Spa Covers
- Paladin Security
- Tolko
- Nokomis Landscaping
- Wise Wood Tree Care



Did you know you can get WorkBC Employment Services from different locations in the North Okanagan? We have five partners, one of which is NexusBC, which currently runs a fantastic, no-cost-to-you program for youth 18-24 to help them find work. Intake is continuous, so there's no wait. Visit nexusbc.ca/trainingforjobs.htm for info.

GET TO KNOW: WORKBC STAFF



Walk into our brand new Youth Resource Centre (YRC) and you'll probably meet Margo Fleming, the upbeat, friendly, newest addition to our team. We asked her a few questions so you could get to know her before walking through the front doors.

What's your favourite Joke?

I'm a big fan of bad jokes. How about this one: Why did the pebble roll down the hill? He was trying to be boulder.

Why do you want to work in the YRC?

I think youth are up against a lot these days. I hope we can build off each other and create a space that is welcoming, high energy, and full of opportunities.

Who inspires you and why?

I'm inspired by my family and friends. Also, Brene Brown. She's killing it in her field and I'm so inspired by her work on vulnerability and leadership. If you haven't read her books or seen her on Netflix, do yourself a favour and check them out!

Coollest job you've ever held?

When I was younger I had a volunteer position working at an animal sanctuary. I spent part of my days hanging out with a spider monkey named Michaela who I would sit with and pretend to pick bugs off. I was also slapped in the face by a white capuchin monkey at the same place.

Fave quote?

Hmmm tough one. I love a good quote. "Whether you think you can, or you think you can't, you're right." - Henry Ford.



Mobility for Good is a new opportunity for youth under 26 who have been in child welfare. Telus can give you a free phone and a \$0 two-year plan. "Their main goal is to help youth reduce expenses on phones and allow them to spend their money on necessities like food, housing, and families if they have them." Also helpful for job search! Apply at <https://bit.ly/2lhDbUw>.

SPOTLIGHT: YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDER

EMPLOY!

Angie Fisher loves her job. It isn't the paperwork or the phone calls that get her psyched about each day — it's the youth. "I love seeing the youth waken to their strengths and their potentials," she says. "I love seeing them start to realize that feeling good about yourself is a right, a right for all of us."



Angie (top left) has been part of the Employ! program, for youth ages 16 to 30, for almost 10 years. Federally-funded, and offered under the same roof as the new WorkBC Youth Resource Centre, Employ! is a four-week program that gets young people working. The program features resume writing, interview skills, critical thinking, certificates, job placement, and more...plus participants get \$13.85 an hour to be there!

Angie and her co-facilitator, Angela Bushey (above right), work hard to make each workshop fun. They recently introduced a virtual reality component, for example, where youth throw on a headset and virtually try out being cooks, mechanics, and office assistants to get a feel for working.

"I have so much respect for young people because they are just so resilient and endure so much without a lot of complaint," Angie says. "We can't ever fully experience what someone else goes through — our stories are all so unique — but my experiences as a youth allow me to relate."

Whether it's the tools they receive in the program, or the confidence they build, the youth walk away with a shared sentiment: "I couldn't have done it without Employ!" To register, call Angie at 250-545-2215 x 215.

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