



Meredith Stewart

New Member:
January 2017

Hometown:
Surrey, BC

Current Community:
Vancouver, BC

Inspiration

Working in the non-profit sector, I've had many opportunities to be on the receiving end of generous donations, but I've never had the opportunity to have a say in which projects should receive funding. I'm excited to see what programs are in the works for youth in Metro Vancouver this year.

Fun Fact

I am a shameless Shakira fan. Her songs taught me the rules of Latin American Spanish pronunciation and gave me the confidence to try out new vocabulary.

What do you hope to achieve on the Council?

My passion is helping newcomers make Canada their home and I plan to advocate for newcomer youth, especially those who experience barriers to accessing services and programming.

What accomplishment are you most proud of to date?

I'm very proud of building the Online Learning Program For Newcomers that I currently run, and seeing it grow in popularity. It was challenging, but I taught myself how to do so many new things I never imagined I could have done.

Bio

Meredith studied Political Science and Latin American Studies at McGill University. After getting her degree, Meredith completed a Teachers of English as a Second Language certificate at Seneca College in Ontario.

Following her studies, Meredith was an English as a Second Language instructor in Ontario and Nova Scotia, at three different educational institutions. Through these roles, she performed individual needs assessments with employees and their supervisors to identify skill gaps.

In 2016, Meredith visited Ecuador where she volunteered as a camp counsellor. Currently, Meredith is an Online Learning Settlement Worker through the Immigrant Services Society of BC (ISSofBC).

At ISSofBC, Meredith designed an online learning, easy-to-access program that helps newcomers prepare for their first job in Canada. Using this program as a safe space, participants can ask any question they have about work or culture, and connect with others to reduce feelings of isolation.



As most of her experience is related to helping youth and newcomers achieve success, she is thrilled to further contribute in the Youth Get It Community Council.

Meredith hiking the Salkantay trail to Macchu Picchu