



## Simran Johar

**New Council Member:**  
January 2018

**Hometown:**  
Surrey, BC

**Current Community:**  
Surrey, BC

### *Inspiration*

Being born in India, I have seen underprivileged youth struggling for basic necessities, so I understand the importance of community groups like the Youth Get It Community Council and how they can help youth break the cycle of poverty.

### *Fun Fact*

I've lived in three different countries – India, New Zealand, and Canada. I also enjoy writing and was published for the first time in 2013. In the future, I hope to publish more books about my travel and life experiences around the globe.

### *What do you hope to achieve on the Council?*

Working with other emerging young leaders, I hope to learn effective decision-making skills by determining the organizations that would benefit most from our support. The Council will allow me to gain valuable experience to enhance these skills, as it gathers input from a youth perspective.

### *What accomplishment are you most proud of to date?*

I travelled to a poor village in northern Vietnam called Mai Chau to build a school for elementary students. Contributing to their community has definitely been my proudest accomplishment to date.

### *Bio*

Simran is a Member Banking Specialist at Coast Capital. She was previously a Youth Get It Intern Leader, acting as a company ambassador at key community events throughout the Lower Mainland.

Passionate about supporting youth, Simran first discovered her knack for mentorship as a member of the Surrey Appreciates ME (SAME) Program, which matched high school students with elementary school students of Cougar Creek Elementary, through which Simran guided and mentored them through their initial high school years. Simran also participated in the Girls' Club at Cougar Creek Elementary School, which focused on building confidence and unity within young women.

Combining her passion for philanthropy with her love for travel, Simran travelled with fellow students to impoverished villages in Vietnam to assist struggling rural communities. While there, the students of the Wildcats Helping Empower and Educate Lives (WHEEL) Program decided to raise \$5,000 to construct a school for the children of the Vietnamese village, Mai Chau.

Simran continues to help youth build their financial literacy through Junior Achievement British Columbia (JABC), where she volunteers as a Youth Representative. Through JABC, she facilitates financial workshops called 'Dollars with Sense' for grade eight and nine students.



Simran on a recent trip to Vietnam

Simran is in the process of obtaining a degree in the Bachelor of International Economics from the University of British Columbia. Currently, she is an executive member of the International Development Economics Association (IDEA) and volunteers with the Youth Transforming Society.