



# IEP CONFERENCE

A UNIQUE FORUM FOR  
Internationally Educated Professionals



## For Immediate Release

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### **Conference to Connect Internationally Educated Professionals with Employers**

**Toronto, Monday, October 15, 2007** – A forum that takes a different approach to job search will be played out when the Internationally Educated Professionals (IEP) Conference comes to Toronto on Oct. 19.

“This is not a job fair or career day, but a networking and inspiring opportunity for employers, educated careerists and community resources who come together to instruct each other on strategic approaches to employment success”, says Rhonda Singer, Conference chair and president of the Progress Career Planning Institute.

Five years ago, the IEP Conference began its circuitous journey of sensitizing employers to the needs of professionals who were foreign trained and held degrees and certifications outside of Canada. At the same time, this became a platform to educate newly landed professionals about the much required Canadian experience and the Canadian workplace. IEPs connect with employers, licensing bodies, educational institutions, associations and other stakeholders who can help accelerate newcomers’ transition to a fuller Canadian life.

“The concept of ‘cultural intelligence’ has taken hold in the GTA,” says Singer, “where more than 50% of Torontonians have arrived recently from elsewhere.”

“When we initiated the Conference, many employers didn’t know where to find the information to quickly assess international credentials in Canadian terms,” says Singer. “Now, the issues have evolved and labour shortages have sharpened interest and self-education for integrating international professionals more quickly into the Canadian work force.”

Singer should know, since she also leads a career services Centre that last year alone handled over 8,000 clients, many of whom were new immigrants to Canada. Organizers anticipate that the Conference will attract over 1,200 participants.

“New immigrants are looking to understand what employers are looking for and how cultural differences can be marketed positively. On the other hand, they also connect with successful IEPs and learn from their experiences”, states Singer.

This year’s IEP Conference will have special interest for those whose skills fall into the areas of Engineering and Other Related Professions, Information and Communications Technology, Human Resources, Sales and Marketing, Finance and Accounting, and



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Healthcare and Related Professions. The IEP Conference also invites community services that are helpful to IEPs and their integration experience.

The IEP Conference takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, 255 Front St., West in Toronto.

**About the IEP Conference:**

The 2007 IEP Conference, presented by Progress Career Planning Institute, was supported by this year's title sponsor Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Platinum media sponsor Toronto Community News and Diamond sponsors: the City of Toronto, Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, EPIC Educational Program Innovations Center; Chartered Accountants of Ontario and gold sponsors: Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC).

**About the Progress Career Planning Institute:**

Progress Career Planning Institute (PCPI) is a business-focused not for profit organization that aligns career development with Cultural Intelligence to enhance performance in a multicultural workforce.

- 30 -

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