

**BCCIE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT:  
THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ON SMALLER  
CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

**Hosted by  
Vancouver Island University**

**Friday, March 4, 2011  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Building 300, Royal Arbutus Room  
Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, BC**

International students contribute greatly to the cultural and social fabric of British Columbia's small cities and towns. The presence of colleges, universities, school districts and independent schools with large international student populations create great opportunities and also some challenges for local communities.

Join a broad panel of community representatives to learn their perspectives on the benefits and challenges of hosting international students. Following the panel, participants will have the opportunity to engage in an interactive question and answer session. In the afternoon session, participants will divide into small groups for a workshop on maximizing the potential of international students in your local community, with the goal of identifying best practices for working within communities to help our international students reach their fullest potential.

Panellists will include John Horn, Social Planner with the City of Nanaimo, Ashwak Sirri, Owner of the Grand Hotel: Mohammed Hawamdeh, International Students Liaison with International Students Services at Vancouver Island University, and a representative from the Central Vancouver Island Immigrant Settlement/Multicultural Society.

This free, all-day event is part of the BCCIE professional development series and is open to all BCCIE stakeholders from public and recognized private K-12 institutions and school districts, and from EQA-designated post-secondary and language institutions. Lunch will be provided to all participants free of charge.

To register for this event, visit [www.bccie.bc.ca/educators/professional-development](http://www.bccie.bc.ca/educators/professional-development) before **Thursday, March 3, 2011**. For information about future BCCIE events, visit [www.bccie.bc.ca](http://www.bccie.bc.ca).