

## THE ROLE OF RELATIONSHIPS IN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADJUSTMENTS

### A BCCIE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2010**

**1:30-4:30 PM**

**Haro Room, Cadboro Commons  
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**

A consistent finding in the literature on adjustment indicates that international students often struggle with social and relational issues. Arguably, one of the most important aspects of the transition for international students is the fact that they leave behind their social support network, while at the same time they have not yet established strong support in the host country. This becomes especially important to understand when we know that social support buffers stress during cultural transitions and is one factor that consistently predicts successful cross-cultural transitions. On the other hand, we also know that social isolation and loneliness are the two most significant predictors of how well students cope during their stay in a foreign country.

During this presentation, Dr. Natalee Popadiuk will share findings from her in-depth qualitative studies with secondary and post-secondary international students. In particular, she will focus on how relational connections and disconnections may provide an innovative way of conceptualizing and working with many international student issues. Dr. Popadiuk is an Assistant Professor of Counselling Psychology at the University of Victoria's Faculty of Education.

This event is open to stakeholders from all sectors. Registration is limited, and all attendees must register in advance via our online event registration system. In order to cover costs for this event, there will be a small registration fee of \$35 for BC stakeholders (\$60 for those out of province).

To attend this workshop, register online here: <http://www.bccie.bc.ca/educators/professional-development> before **Tuesday, October 26**. This event will be preceded by a BCCIE Regional Roundtable Friday morning.

Our full 2010-11 schedule of events is now online and may be accessed via the For Educators section of [www.bccie.bc.ca](http://www.bccie.bc.ca). The next BCCIE professional development event, **Programming and Study Abroad for Non-Traditional Students**, will be held in Vancouver on November 19, 2010.