

## SDG Accord Case Study Student Association of BCIT



The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Initiative	Summary	Benefits	Challenges and Recommendations to others
T POURRY  1 POURRY  3 GOOD HEALTH  AND WELL BEING  2 ZERO HUNGER  10 REDUCED HUNGER  10 REDUCED HUNGER	The Student Association of BCIT (BCITSA) partnered with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank (GVFB) for The Food Pantry program, providing BCIT students with free, healthy, accessible, and culturally appropriate food and personal hygiene products. Since January 2022, the program has served 2017 students and continues to see increasing demand. It operates twice a week for 5 hours, offering immediate food support to any BCIT student in need. From January to April 2023, the program served 1976 students and expects to serve an additional one to two thousand students. BCITSA collects donations from GVFB and Cobbs Bread, supplementing purchases with grant/donation funds from Costco.	<ul> <li>→ Served close to 4,000 self-identified in-need students, from January 2022 to May 2023.</li> <li>→ Serving the immediate need for food and reducing food insecurity on BCIT campus.</li> <li>→ Exposing BCITSA members to our community food access services: community fridge, Quest food exchange, and emergency food fund.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ The service is witnessing a steady increase in both the demand for and the number of students accessing it.</li> <li>→ To keep up with the growing demand, an increase in donations, staff, and resources are required.</li> <li>Next steps</li> <li>→ Post-referendum vote, a full-time staff was appointed to manage the program's increasing demand.</li> <li>→ We are actively seeking additional donations and stakeholders' involvement in our initiatives.</li> </ul>
Student Refugee Program  1 NO POURITY  A QUALITY  4 CEDICATION  10 REQUARTES  17 PARTNERSHIPS  18 RECORD HIGH GROWTH  REQUARTES  17 RECTRIBUTES  18 RECORD HIGH GROWTH  RECHARTES  17 RECTRIBUTES  18 RECORD HIGH GROWTH  RECHARTES  18 RECHARTES  19 RECHARTES  10 RECHARTES  10 RECHARTES  10 RECHARTES  11 RECHARTES  11 RECHARTES  12 RECHARTES  13 RECHARTES  14 RECHARTES  15 RECHARTES  16 RECHARTES  17 RECHARTES  18 RECHARTES  19 RECHARTES  10 RECHARTE	Through a partnership with BCIT and WUSC, the Student Association successfully welcomed its first participant in the Student Refugee Program, which combines resettlement with higher education opportunities. The program, initiated in 1978, has expanded to support over 150 students annually across numerous Canadian campuses. The BCIT Student Association's involvement began a few years ago when dedicated students recognized the chance to aid a student refugee. With a memorandum of understanding in place, the association joined forces with BCIT to support one new student each year. A Local Committee comprising BCIT and BCITSA staff, along with students, was established to provide academic and settlement support. The inaugural student arrived in August 2022 and has since received assistance with various integration aspects from BCIT and the Student Association.	For the student  → Gaining access to quality higher education and a pathway to integration into their new country.  → Developing economic opportunities for themselves and their families back home.  For the BCIT Student Association  → Collaborating in partnerships with other organizations to support the well-being of students.  → Growing trust to overcome challenges together, and learning our power to make changes when we work collaboratively.	<ul> <li>→ Securing financial capacity of funds for supporting prospective students' integration within our BCIT community and Canada.</li> <li>Next steps</li> <li>→ Maintaining the Student Refugee Program with the staff we have to the best of our ability.</li> <li>→ Seeking partners to assist in achieving the goal of supporting the current and future students joining this program.</li> </ul>
Childcare Salmon Release Project  4 GUALITY LUFE BELOW WATER  14 BELOW WATER	The BCIT Student Association operates a Childcare Center that serves 62 children. Located on the Burnaby campus, the center provides accessible support for the children of students and faculty. BCIT is actively restoring Guichon Creek on campus to revive its natural habitat and promote the return of trout and salmon. The BCITSA Childcare Center participated in releasing thousands of fry into the creek, educating the children about the consequences of not restoring the creek and the significance of keeping our waters clean. This hands-on experience taught the children about the importance of maintaining clean water for the survival and reproduction of salmon.	<ul> <li>→ Educating toddlers to young children on environmental restoration and fish completing its life cycle.</li> <li>→ Participating in the BCIT community education and support.</li> <li>→ Enhancing children's connection to nature and role as guardians.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ Engage in community garbage collection efforts to support the environment. By showing leadership action, we decrease the stigma of picking up garbage and keeping our campus clean.</li> <li>Next steps</li> <li>→ Keeping a focus on maintaining a clean creek for the well-being of fish and fostering the children's emotional connection to the environment and animals.</li> <li>→ Enriching the curriculum through partnerships with environmental experts to provide children with educational opportunities and enhance their connection to the environment.</li> </ul>
Food and Retail Operation Initiative  12 misronality (analytical and Production A	In response to COVID-19 regulations, our student association retail services implemented safety measures in our four operating stores to protect staff and customers during 2020-2021. As restrictions eased, we resumed our commitment to responsible consumption by reintroducing recyclable cups, containers, and biodegradable utensils and straws. We prioritize creating a safe environment while also considering the environmental impact of our operations.	<ul> <li>→ Removing plastic bags and offering reusable bags for \$0.99 cents at our stores.</li> <li>→ Providing recyclable and biodegradable products, such as containers, wood utensils, and cane straws.</li> <li>→ Integrating responsible consumption culture by offering bring-your-own-mug to be filled in our stores, while charging a \$0.25 cents fee for one-use recyclable cups.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ Sourcing products that are both environmentally friendly with usable quality to meet stakeholders' standards.</li> <li>→ Cultural change demands time, resources, and education on recycling and managing mixed material containers.</li> <li>→ Infrastructure barriers in recycling and composting facilities that receive recyclables or biodegradable materials.</li> <li>Next steps</li> <li>→ Seeking consistent food packaging solutions that align with the audience's needs on campus, while minimizing confusion caused by the use of multiple packaging products.</li> </ul>