



#ACCENTUREACCES GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT - 2020

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Allison Pond:

ACCES Employment is an employment service delivery organization. We're in the community, but we also offer these services online to support people in finding employment. And a lot of the people that we work with actually are newcomers to Canada.

Kelechi Uzoma:

Back in Nigeria, I started my career as an engineer. There was a lot of instability in Nigeria, and I didn't see a future. Not the kind of future I wanted for myself or for my kids. It's hard to abandon everything you know, and just relocate to another country.

Allison Pond:

Canada needs people. We have a lot of shortages across various sectors. The more people we can reach before they come to Canada, online or in person, the more we can connect them to our employers and to good, meaningful jobs.

Kelechi Uzoma:

The moment I started this journey, I joined the ACCES Employment program, and it helped me realize it wasn't all about the technical skills I had. It was more about the soft skills and how I communicate that. Now, I branded myself better, and got employers to see me for who I really was.

Janet K.:

Accenture's partnered with ACCES for almost 10 years. They're a wonderful organization that truly aligned to our core values. We believe ACCES is a pillar in the Canadian economy.

Allison Pond:

So ACCES and Accenture have worked together for quite a long time as partners really. And not

only have they provided us with a generous grant in 2016 to help us really double the number of job seekers that we've been able to serve. And now we recently received a generous grant from Accenture to help us to develop a virtual employment attendant. It will be combining artificial intelligence and chatbot technology that can help our job seekers to access our services more easily online.

Kelechi Uzoma:

My experience with access employment has been tremendous. It wasn't just me, it was my wife and I. So when I say it's emotional, it was really emotional for me. And ACCES Employment who was like my guidance angel in my new professional landscape.

Janet K.:

So I've been able to see firsthand the impact that ACCES currently makes, and I'm so excited to see what they'll be able to do as they further digitize their organization, implement a virtual employment attendant, and be able to scale the services that they already deliver so well.

Kelechi Uzoma:

I didn't have any professional network when I landed here. The only network I had was ACCES. And it makes everything really easy. Life is good. Yeah.

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