



Work & Education x WorkBC Integration

We are excited to share that the Foundry Work & Education Program and WorkBC Employment Services are partnering to develop stronger and better coordinated support pathways for youth across BC.

What?

The goal of this partnership is to ensure that no matter where young people begin their journey, they have access to the employment and education support services they need to achieve their goals. Working collaboratively will allow for faster and easier access to care; access to the right level of support an individual needs; and improved access to resources.

Why?

This partnership will establish, or further develop, the working relationship between Foundry and WorkBC, ensuring that youth are provided with the right level of support with their work and/or school related goals. It aligns with Foundry's practice of connecting and working alongside existing community resources and filling gaps where needed.

How?

A phased approach will be taken to support the integration of Foundry's Work & Education Program and WorkBC services. This approach is intended to build on the good work that is already occurring in several communities and create more consistent partnership and collaboration.

Why Now?

As the Foundry Work & Education Program expands into more BC communities, it is a natural time to work on establishing or further developing our partnership with WorkBC. This integration work will help to set the stage and serve as an example of what the future of employment and education support services look like in BC.

Timeline

We are in the early stages of partnership development, and plan to implement a phased approach over the next 18 months. The integration work will consist of information gathering and sharing, relationship building between Work & Education and WorkBC staff, creating collaborative practices and referral pathways, and data sharing.

Next Steps

Over the next month, Kelly will be reaching out to Work & Education and WorkBC staff (in communities with a Foundry centre) to gather information about how Foundry and WorkBC are working together to support youth in each of their communities.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kelly Sutton, Integration Manager for the Work & Education Program, at ksutton@foundrybc.ca