

# Calgary Vietnamese Youth Group

A  
Community -  
based Youth  
Empowerment  
Initiative



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## 'Reach For The Stars' Youth Conference

The Calgary Vietnamese Youth Group (CVYG) would like to invite all to the first **1-day 'Reach For The Stars' conference at the University of Calgary on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002.** Recognizing the need of many Vietnamese youths in Calgary, CVYG has begun to coordinate this event to provide youths and their parents with much needed information on post secondary education so that they could collectively or individually make an informed decision on many of educational opportunities and career choices.

### Conference Program

*What career paths should I take? How do I know what I do well? What school or program is best for me? What is it like going to university or college? How do I find out about financial assistance or awards available to me? How can I help my child financially or emotionally prepare for post-secondary studies?*

These are just some of the questions that the 1-day conference will help youths and their parents to answer. Following is the outline of the day.

#### Session

#### Description

**Plenary Session:**  
'Reach for the Stars' Be Your Best

This is the opening session for parents and youths to discuss what it means to be your best.

**Career &  
Post-Secondary Options**

Assessment tools and 'real-life' experiences will help guide youths in their career and school decisions

**Lunch:**  
School Booths Display

Informational booths of the various schools throughout Calgary will be set-up during lunch for youths and parents to gather info.

**Financial Planning/Budgeting & Life  
At The Post-Secondary Level**

Youths and parents will learn about school budgets, types of financial support; and what school life is like at this level.

**Closing Session:**  
Community Building

This is the closing session for participants that will discuss the importance of community building - locally and globally.

Note there will be a session for youths in English and a session for parents in Vietnamese – with the exception of the Plenary and Closing sessions, which are held jointly for both youths and parents.

Additionally, the CVYG is working to set up a Mentorship Network to foster a strong network to support the youths. The purpose of the Network is to connect youths with Vietnamese individuals working in their field of expertise who can help advise and guide the youths to navigate through their education and career options. The introduction and sign-up for the Mentorship Network will be made at the conference.

## Keynote Speaker

Ms. Vanessa Bui, successful research pharmacist from Houston, Texas will be speaking at the Plenary session. She is also the Vice President of External Affairs of the Vietnamese Culture and Science Association (VCSA). She will share her knowledge and experiences to help youths understand the impact of making mindful and healthy decisions, especially with their career and education choices.

## Should I attend?

The conference is designed for Vietnamese youths between the ages of 16-24 and their parents. You should attend if:

- You are interested in exploring educational options at the post-secondary level;
- You are concerned about what career paths to take;
- You would like to meet others who share in a similar journey or have been through it; and
- You want to know how to budget and finance your post-secondary studies.

## What will I benefit from the conference?

With the help of the University of Calgary and numerous young volunteers from a number of associations in Calgary, CVYG will make all efforts to equip you with the following:

1. Information on career and education choices at the post-secondary level;
2. Tools and a network of contacts to help you make an informed decision about your education and career; and
3. Also, last but not least the shared understanding of our Vietnamese community and the important role that youth have within it.

## Date, Time & Location

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2002

Time: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Location: University of Calgary, Science Theatres 148

Note, lunch will be provided to all participants. Also, a map and directions to the University will be provided upon registration.

## Cost

The conference is sponsored by various Vietnamese associations and businesses, and is being offered FREE to participants.

## Registration

To register for this conference, please either call the Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Association at 272-4668 or email at [cvyg@canada.com](mailto:cvyg@canada.com).

When calling or emailing, please provide the following information:

- Names (of youth and parent)
- Mailing Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address (if applicable)
- Current Level of Education of Youth

## Who Is The Calgary Vietnamese Youth Group?

The Calgary Vietnamese Youth Group is self-appointed with the support of various Vietnamese associations. It is comprised of interested Vietnamese individuals who share the need to empower Vietnamese youths to realize their potential.

The group is committed to a community approach in identifying solutions and working collaboratively to provide youths with a greater sense of control of their own lives and the support they have in doing so.

Working together to empower Vietnamese youths to their rights, respect and responsibility.