

	HOMESTAY Pre-Conference Workshop Sunday, May 14, 2023
8:30 – 9:00 AM 9:00 – 9:15 AM	Continental Breakfast Welcome Remarks & Acknowledgement of the Land Overview & Introductions Moderators: Brent Gibson, Mercedes Hayduk & Cheryl Lee
9:15 – 10:15 AM	The Impact of the Pandemic on the Wellness of Adolescent International Students in Canada Yingling Elaine Lou, Calgary Board of Education / University of Calgary This session highlights findings from a grant research project which investigates the impact of COVID-19 on the wellness of adolescent international students within and beyond school settings. Data includes in-depth interviews with 30 international students from 11 different countries who are currently attending various high schools in a public school board and focus groups with International Student Coordinators. The findings are instrumental in developing educational strategies, resources, and policies that can best meet the needs of current and future international students in Canadian public schools.
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Roundtable Discussions – Registrants will be surveyed in advance to identify topics of interest
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Health Break
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM	The Hard Reset: Solutions and Approaches to Supporting Post-Pandemic International Students and Host Families Dr. Stephana Julia Moss, Dalhousie University & Rhonda Teramura, Campbell River School District Who are our students today and how can we best support them? What are the social and emotional development impacts on our students coming out of the pandemic and how do programs need to pivot their support and expectations to provide the students and host parents an amazing experience? This presentation will unravel the mystery of why our students are different and propose some ways that we need to reset our supports and our expectations for inbound students. This presentation will be both analytical and interactive as the group works together to develop solutions to improve supports for our students in the future.
12:15 – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break & Roundtable Discussions Continued
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Managing Difficult Conversations Ronda Bell, Educational Consultant Do you get uncomfortable knowing that you have to have a difficult conversation with a host parent? Are you concerned that some host parents might challenge & change the direction of your group meetings? Unfortunately, conflict and difficult conversations are part of managing our homestay programs. In this session we will take a look at a mock conversation where a homestay meeting gets derailed by one parent and will discuss some skills to bring it back on track. We will get a chance to see what works and what doesn't work and the importance of arranging and being prepared for difficult conversations and important follow up.
2:05 – 3:05 PM	Hosts Are in Short Supply! Retain The Ones You Have & Recruit More While Ensuring Quality Doug Ronson, ESQ Educational Services & Rhonda Teramura, Campbell River School District Across Canada, there is a shortage of homestay hosts. As more students seek to come to Canada, programs are facing even bigger challenges in host recruitment and retention. In this presentation, we will discuss how to retain the hosts you have by providing support and fair compensation. In addition, we will offer proven ideas on how to recruit new, high-quality hosts and ensure that they continue to work with you over the long term.
3:05 – 3:15 PM	Health Break
3:15 – 3:45 PM	Roundtable Discussions – Registrants will be surveyed in advance to identify topics of interest
3:45 – 4:45 PM	It's All About the Relationship - A New Approach to Meaningful Relationships Steve Foran, Gratitude at Work In this session we explore the importance and relevance of gratitude as a foundational mindset to building meaningful relationships. Participants discover the critical barrier that separates those who thrive from those who just survive—even in the midst of chaos. Whether it's the relationship with your team, international students or your host families, you will gain two (2) practical tools and one (1) idea to immediately implement to be a more effective relationship builder in your work and all aspects of life.
4:45 – 4:50 PM	Closing Remarks