Surendar Korada arrived in Canada in April of 2010. He immediately commenced his job search by posting his résumé on several company-specific and job search websites. He was disappointed when he did not receive any responses. He called an employment agency, but the staff members were neither helpful nor friendly. Next, he tried adapting his résumé to reflect the unique requirements of each job advertisement. Still no responses.

However, the situation improved when Surendar finished Ontario Tourism Education Corporation’s (OTEC) Ready-to-Work program and submitted his résumé to the program’s employer partners. Right away, he received invitations to interviews from three employers!

It was time to practice the interview tips he had learned in the Ready-to-Work program. He arrived 10 minutes prior to the scheduled interview time and asked for the business cards of the interviewers; neither is the practice in India. He sent a thank you card after each interview rather than making a follow-up telephone call as he would have done in India.

Whether it was a result of these new behaviours, the connections that ACCES and OTEC have with these employers, or, just a matter of finding the right match, Surendar was offered a job. Now that’s the response that Surendar was hoping for!

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