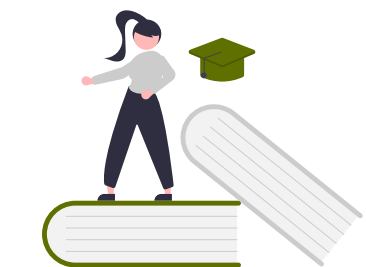


# YOUNG CANADIANS DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE VITAL WORK EXPERIENCE THEY NEED TO THRIVE

## TRENDS SHAPING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT TODAY

### WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING HAS **STALLED**

Participation in Work-Integrated Learning programs has stalled at pre-pandemic levels, **limiting young people's opportunities to gain vital work experience.**



### YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE **LIMITED ACCESS TO ON-THE-JOB AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING**

Just over half of young workers have access to training, of those **many spent under 10 hours per year on training.**



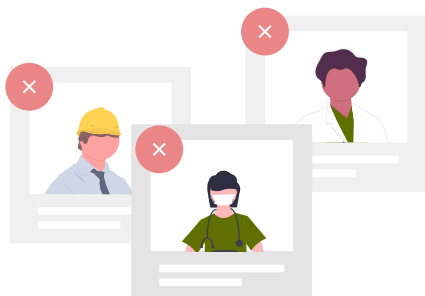
### YOUNG WOMEN STILL **EARN LESS**

The early career gender pay gap persists, **women continue to be overrepresented in lower-earning categories.**



### YOUNG IMMIGRANTS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS **FACE BARRIERS**

Young immigrants and international students are highly educated but **face barriers matching their qualifications to employment opportunities in Canada.**



## YOU CAN SUPPORT & RETAIN YOUNG TALENT BY

**Expanding Work-Integrated Learning** opportunities significantly to ensure young people have access to much-needed work experience.



**Increasing access to on-the-job and professional development training** to support young people's career advancement.



**Paying equitable living wages especially to young women** and for internship and co-op roles.



**Recognizing international credentials and creating clear pathways** for young immigrants and international students to transition into the workforce.



**Canada's young people are ambitious, educated and ready to work. It's time to invest in paid work experience opportunities, equitable pay and flexible pathways to meaningful work to build a future of work that where young people can thrive.**

Read the full report:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/youth-and-innovation/facing-challenges-finding-opportunity-2025>

For more information: <https://uwaterloo.ca/youth-and-innovation/>



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