### **Monday, March 17th**

### **George Brown College President Dr.Gervan Fearon**

### **The job market is weak, and internships are difficult to find**.

#### Dear President,

I’m Jui Hsin Wong, an international student from George Brown College. Over the past few years, I have witnessed firsthand the increasing challenges faced by both international and domestic students in securing internships and job opportunities. The job market has become increasingly competitive, and internship opportunities are becoming harder to find, particularly in the context of a global economic downturn. In this letter, I aim to explain the current employment situation, share my personal experiences, and propose potential solutions for improving the prospects of students at George Brown College.

In these days, Canada's job market remained slow, adding only about 1,100 jobs. Although the jobless rate remained at 6.6 percent. This is in sharp contrast to pre-COVID-19 levels, and slow employment growth has raised predictions of another interest rate drop by the Bank of Canada (Yahoo Finance, 2025). In such a financial environment, internship chances are becoming increasingly scarce. Although some organizations, such as NATO, the Association of Canada, and the Ontario government, are offering internship programs for the summer of 2025, competition for these opportunities is increasing. For example, Glassdoor lists approximately 1000 internship openings for 2025, but the large number of candidates makes landing a position even more difficult.

Overall, Canada's poor job market has made internships more difficult to get. Job seekers and students must work harder on their skills and networking efforts to stand out in this competitive atmosphere.

To address this issue, I propose that George Brown College launch a Jobs Coach program to help students find internships and jobs. A dedicated Jobs Coach could assist students with the full internship and job search process, from writing exceptional résumés to preparing for interviews and understanding job applications. In addition, the college may form a specialized career development team that offers targeted coaching, organizes networking events, and actively collaborates with industry leaders to promote internship possibilities. As relationships with local enterprises, startups, and government agencies grow, students will have more opportunities to gain relevant work experience, increasing their prospects of establishing successful careers.

Furthermore, I recommend building a separate co-op and internship website that categorizes opportunities by employment type. Currently, the career website combines all employment ads, making it impossible for students to identify appropriate internships. A dedicated internship platform would increase accessibility and streamline the application process, allowing students to readily find and apply for positions that match their career goals.

If these initiatives are carried out correctly, we should expect a more stable and promising labor market for students. Strengthening relationships with employers and improving career support programs would benefit current students while also elevating George Brown College's image as a leader in workforce development. A strong internship and employment support structure will entice more prospective students, assuring long-term success for the college and its graduates.

As economic conditions steadily improve, the proactive actions implemented today will help George Brown College students remain competitive in the labor market. Without these efforts, students would continue to struggle to gain the practical experience essential for a successful career, eventually restricting their possibilities for professional development and success in their professions.

In conclusion, I want to thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. As an international student at George Brown College, I am grateful for the college's dedication to student success and efforts to provide an inclusive and supportive atmosphere for all students. I am convinced that by developing a Jobs Coach program, extending career services, and establishing a dedicated internship platform, George Brown College will be able to give real solutions to the issues that students encounter in obtaining internships and jobs. I am excited to see these great improvements take place in the future, and I hope that we can collaborate to improve employment possibilities for all George Brown College students.

**Sincerely,**Jui Hsin Wong

Reference

* Yahoo Finance. (2025). *Canada’s job market flatlines in February, 'solidifying' expectations of another BoC cut*. Retrieved fromhttps://ca.finance.yahoo.com/news/canadas-job-market-flatlines-in-february-solidifying-expectations-of-another-boc-cut-142917215.html
* Reuters. (2025). *Canada’s February unemployment rate unchanged, economy adds few jobs*. Retrieved fromhttps://www.reuters.com/markets/canadas-february-unemployment-rate-unchanged-economy-adds-few-jobs-2025-03-07/
* BNN Bloomberg. (2025). *Canada’s employers put hiring on ice in February ahead of tariff impacts*. Retrieved fromhttps://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/business/economics/2025/03/07/statistics-canada-set-to-release-february-jobs-report-this-morning/
* Financial Post. (2025). *Canada gains fewer jobs than expected, raising odds of Bank of Canada rate cut*. Retrieved from<https://financialpost.com/news/economy/canada-job-gains-miss-expectations-2>