



Self-Employment for Newcomers Orientation

Summary

- SEN is a joint venture between YMCA Greater Vancouver and North Shore Multicultural Society.
- The program helps you to create a business plan, register and launch your business.
- NSMS provides settlement, language and employment services for newcomers, and this program can help you with those services, if you need them.
- Your business idea is more likely to succeed if you are solving a problem for a reachable and sufficiently large group of customers who are willing to pay.
- This program can help with the following challenges
 - Language, business culture, business practice and business skills, time management
- SEN was developed from the YMCA Self Employment EI program, which has run over 30 years.
- It is designed for legal, for-profit business (but no franchises or agencies), regardless of the participant's business experience.
- Participants complete a 8-week program to develop their business plan.
 - 8 weeks are formal classroom sessions
 - These run Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30am to 12:00pm.
 - There is weekly 1-2-1 meeting with the business advisor. This is usually on Thursdays and Fridays as well as some afternoons from Monday to Wednesday.
 - You should budget at least 20 hours per week of your own time
- The program is practical and uses well-established business planning methods. ¹



- You're expected to attend all classes, meet regularly with the business advisor, submit assignments every week, and complete the business plan.
- To get the Certificate of Completion, you must complete your business plan and complete the program.

¹ The actual program schedule may differ slightly to the one shown.

Next Steps

To apply for the program, please follow the following steps:

1. Complete the **Participant Application Form** using this link: <https://bit.ly/SEN-p1>
2. Complete the **Business Idea Application form** using this link:
<https://bit.ly/SEN-b1>
3. Complete the **Entrepreneurial Assessment Survey form** using this link: <https://bit.ly/SEN-o1>
4. Complete the **Skills Assessment & interview booking form** using this link:
<https://bit.ly/SEN-s1>

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