



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child has chosen to participate in Rural eMentoring BC's online mentoring program. We are very excited to welcome them to our program and provide them with a safe and supportive mentoring experience.

## What is Rural eMentoring BC?

This program was developed by the [Rural Education Action Plan](#) and the University of British Columbia to provide mentoring opportunities to rural youth. Program funding comes from Doctors of BC, and is distributed through the [Joint Standing Committee on Rural Issues](#). There is no fee or cost to participating in this program and we are a not-for-profit organization.

## What does your child's participation in the program look like?

With your permission, the eMentoring staff will match your child to a volunteer mentor who is a post-secondary student in or from BC. Your child and their mentor will communicate by sending messages to each other through an online mentoring platform called [MentorCity](#). In the program, your child may choose to complete a curriculum that explores academic success, allyship, career options, post-secondary choices, and much more. Their mentor will guide them through this curriculum while providing support and advice. Mentors in our program act as near-peer role models and older, wiser friends.

## Safety and Privacy

We take the following steps to ensure the safety and privacy of our participants:

- MentorCity is a Canadian company that stores their data on servers located in Canada and does not sell their data to third parties.
- eMentoring's agreement with MentorCity ensures that your child will only be able to communicate with their mentor while on the platform.
- Upon entering the program, mentors and mentees agree to respect their match's privacy (except when safety is at stake), and refrain from sending inappropriate messages and sharing personal information. Read [our full list of policies](#).
- All communications are monitored by the eMentoring and MentorCity staff. MentorCity is able to automatically recognize and remove most personal information if it is shared. The eMentoring staff is able to remove any inappropriate messages and reserves the right to ban any participant for inappropriate conduct.
- Mentors are vetted and trained prior to mentoring a student. They must have a valid Criminal Record Check and complete training in cultural sensitivity and competency, handling difficult situations, and providing appropriate support to youth. Please contact us if you would like more information about how our mentors are selected and trained.

## Data collection

Throughout the program your child will have the option to complete surveys that ask about their future goals and about their experiences in the program. By signing this consent form, you agree that, if your child chooses to complete the surveys, their anonymous answers can be



**Rural eMentoring BC**  
Online mentoring for rural students

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used in a research project called "Rural eMentoring BC: Evaluation of Program Phase 1" that studies how programs like this impact youth. There are no risks to participating, as all answers will remain anonymous. If you have questions about the research project, or you wish to opt out of the surveys, please contact the primary researcher, Juliet Oshiro, at [juliet.oshiro@ubc.ca](mailto:juliet.oshiro@ubc.ca). If you have any concerns or complaints about you/your child's rights as a research participant and/or their experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail [RSIL@ors.ubc.ca](mailto:RSIL@ors.ubc.ca) or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

### Questions and concerns

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns about the information you have just read.

- Email: [e.mentoring@ubc.ca](mailto:e.mentoring@ubc.ca) | Phone: (604) 827-4197

I have read the above information and give consent for my child to participate in the eMentoring program. I will contact the eMentoring staff if I have any questions or concerns.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date