



Report on
International Experience Program (IEP-2023)at
Laurentian University (LU), Canada



Introduction:

The following report outlines the enriching experience of the International Experience Program trip to Canada, which included the successful completion of two subjects and involved a group of 64 students.

The trip took place from 4 July 2023 to 14 August 2023, and the students were divided into groups for departure on either Aug 4th or Aug 5th.

Program Overview:

The International Experience Program aimed to provide students with a comprehensive educational and cultural immersion in Canada. The program incorporated academic subjects, cultural exploration, and a campus tour to facilitate an all-encompassing experience for participants.

Academic Achievement:

During our stay in Canada, participants had the opportunity to complete two subjects – Machine Learning (ML) and Mobile Computing and Wireless Communication (MCWC). These subjects were designed to provide an international perspective and foster cross-cultural learning.

The courses were taught by experienced professors from Laurentian University at Greater Sudbury enabling students to engage in rigorous academic discussions and gain insights from diverse viewpoints.



Group Composition:

The group consisted of 64 students from Gujarat Technological University. Divided into smaller groups for departure, some students left on July 4th, while others departed on July 5th. This approach allowed for smoother travel logistics and facilitated better management of the group throughout the journey.

Academics at Laurentian University

Computer Engineering/ IT:

Machine Learning (ML):

Dr. Kalpdrum Passi taught us Machine Learning in brief by using the presentation and verbal explanations. We worked on an actual project for machine learning. Dr. Passi also gave references for Research Papers. We all gave presentations on research papers and prepared for projects. Dr. Passi always responds to every student for doubts, queries, and problems through the mail. Among us, some students were preparing a Project for our summer internship under Dr. Passi. The examination taken was a subjective, paper-based examination, it was based on memories of attending lectures. Dr. Passi ensured students' attendance in academics regularly. He made sure all the trips would take place in a joyous, guarded way.

Mobile Computing and Wireless Communication (MCWC):

Dr. Ratvindar Grewal taught us Mobile Computing and Wireless Communication (MCWC). Also taught us about UI/UX and Lab was conducted on Android Studio. Here we also worked on an actual project. We made an app for Android from scratch. We had a Project proposal presentation and a final presentation; these sessions were highly interactive where students would ask questions and give suggestions to each other's team. Some students also prepared for their summer internship under Dr. Grewal. The mid-term and final exams were Multiple Choice Questions taken on Scantron Sheets. Dr. Grewal was not only kind and inspiring, he also encouraged students to enhance their creativity and critical thinking.

Pharmacy:

Novel Drug Delivery System (NDDS):

Dr. Abdelwahab Omri taught us the subject NDDS (NOVEL DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM). He is very open-minded and super supportive. He has a deep understanding of this subject and has great experience in this field. So, while teaching he used his practical approach so we can understand the concepts deeply. In class, he often mentioned his work done in this field so that we can

learn something new from his work. Talking about his nature, he was so friendly that everyone could freely ask him queries, questions, and doubts. Students can contact him via mail for their queries, questions, doubts, or any help.

Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD):

Dr. Sujeenthar (Suji) Tharmalingam taught us the subject of CADD (COMPUTER AIDED DRUG DESIGN). He has a very deep understanding of the subject and efficiently serves the concepts. His practical methodology was very attractive and the technique of lecture tests in every next lecture so the theories could be easy to understand. Also, students can contact him via mail for their queries, questions, doubts, and other difficulties. The way he was supportive and kind during the whole program made it easier for students to get through difficult things.

Dr. Christopher McTiernan took us to the practical lab of CADD. He is also a very friendly and cooperative teacher and helped us to understand practical concepts very easily. We got all the instructions by mail every day for the practical section. His knowledge of the drug molecules to play in the software was like a super techy thing and we were very much benefited by his experience in this field. We also gave a presentation of a new drug molecule synthesized by us with the idea of how it will work and has made us develop in different fields like “Confidence to speak in public”, “Getting new molecule discovery”, “Understanding the molecules more closely”, etc.

GROUP ARRIVAL

Group 1 departed on 4th July from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at Ahmedabad and landed in Mumbai. They reached Munich International Airport in Germany.

They arrived at Pearson International Airport on 6th July 2023.



Group 2 departed on 5th July 2023 from Sardar Vallabhbhai International Airport at Ahmedabad and Landed at Delhi.

Group 2 reached Toronto on 6th July 2023 at Pearson International Airport.

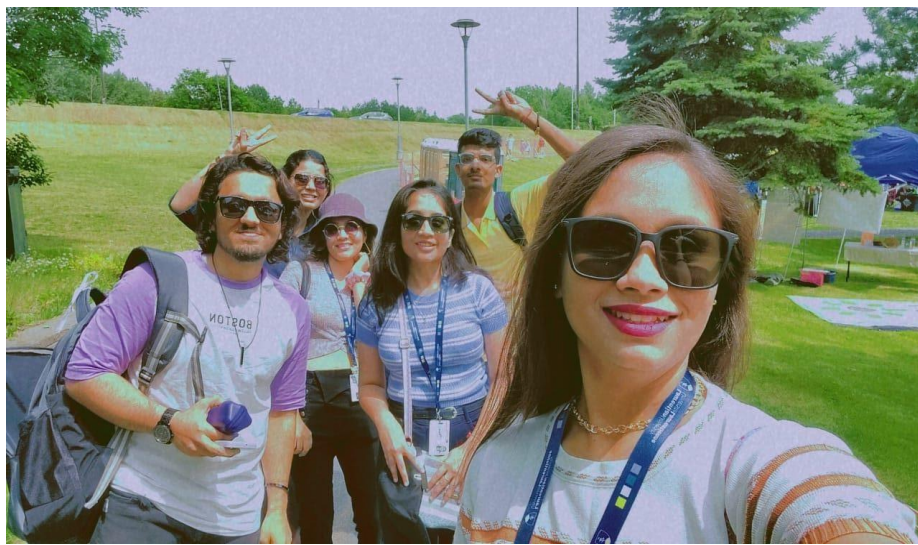


Itinerary and Places Visited

The trip's itinerary included a range of cultural, historical, and educational experiences, creating a well-rounded understanding of Canada's diverse landscape and culture. Some of the notable places we visited were:

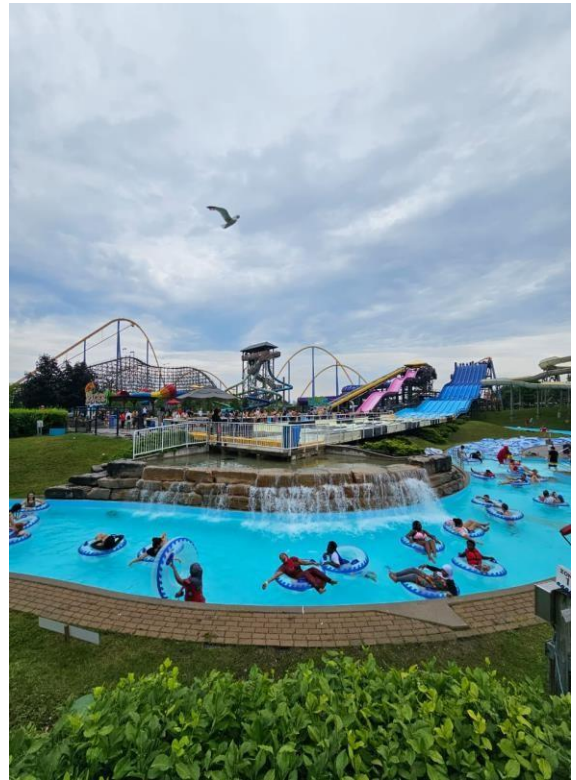
Bell Park, Greater Sudbury:

We visited Bell Park situated in Greater Sudbury and enjoyed the greenery as well the beautiful view of the Ramsey Lake.



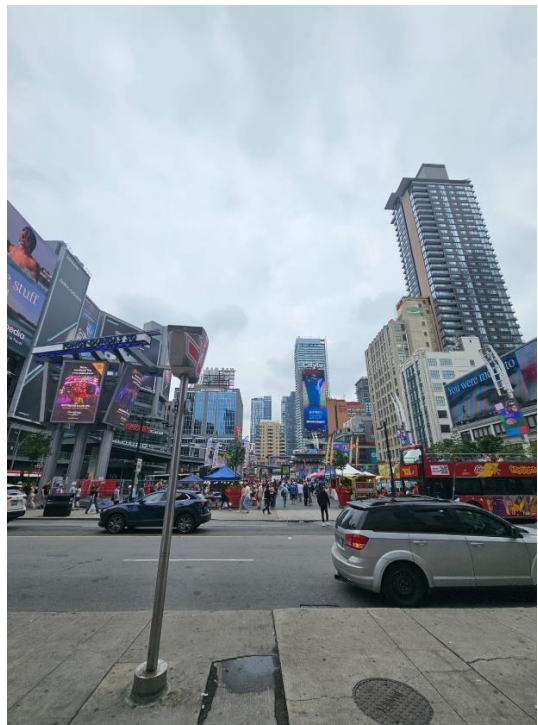
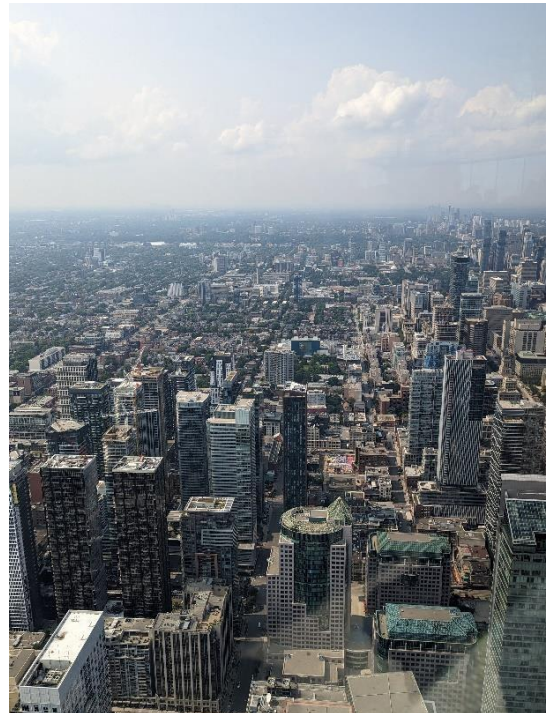
Canada's Wonderland:

Embarking on a group adventure to Canada's Wonderland is an exhilarating journey through a realm of thrill and fun. With heart-pounding roller coasters, vibrant entertainment, and a captivating atmosphere, this shared experience promises to forge unforgettable memories and strengthen the bonds of camaraderie.



Toronto city tour:

We were dropped by the CN tower in Toronto and were given a chance to explore the city on the 16th of July.



Moonlight Beach:

A group excursion to Moonlight Beach in Canada offers a serene escape, where the rhythmic embrace of gentle waves and the shimmering moonlight create an enchanting ambiance.



Laurentian Private Beach:

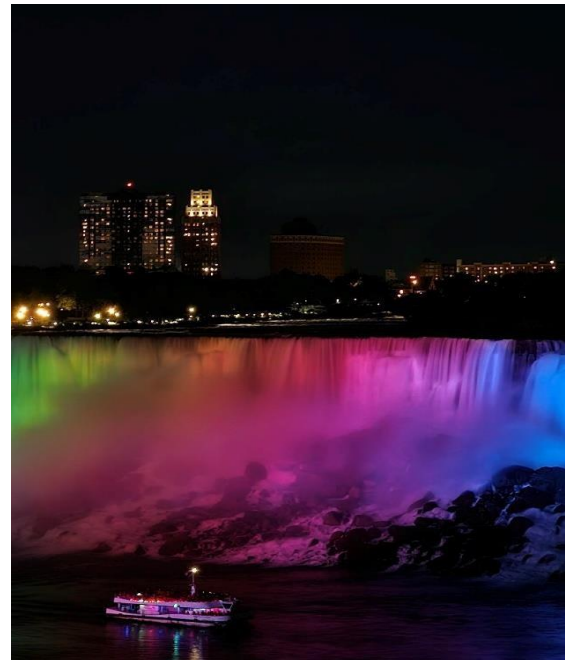
When a bunch of friends visit Laurentian Private Beach together, it feels like finding a secret treasure in nature. We laugh and enjoy the peaceful breeze by the clear water and beautiful scenery.



Niagara Falls:

Both groups visited Niagara Falls on 29 July. We left for Toronto at 5:15 in the morning by bus and reached by 10:30 am.

Going to Niagara Falls with friends is super exciting! We see huge waterfalls, hear the water roar, and take fun pictures together. It's a fantastic adventure that we'll always remember.



BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir:

After a very exhausting and fun day at Niagara Falls, while returning we visited the beautiful Swaminarayan temple on 30th July 2023.



EXTRA - CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Along with academics, a few extracurricular activities were also conducted at the campus.

Garba Night:

A Garba night was arranged on 22nd July 2023 on the campus of Laurentian University itself.

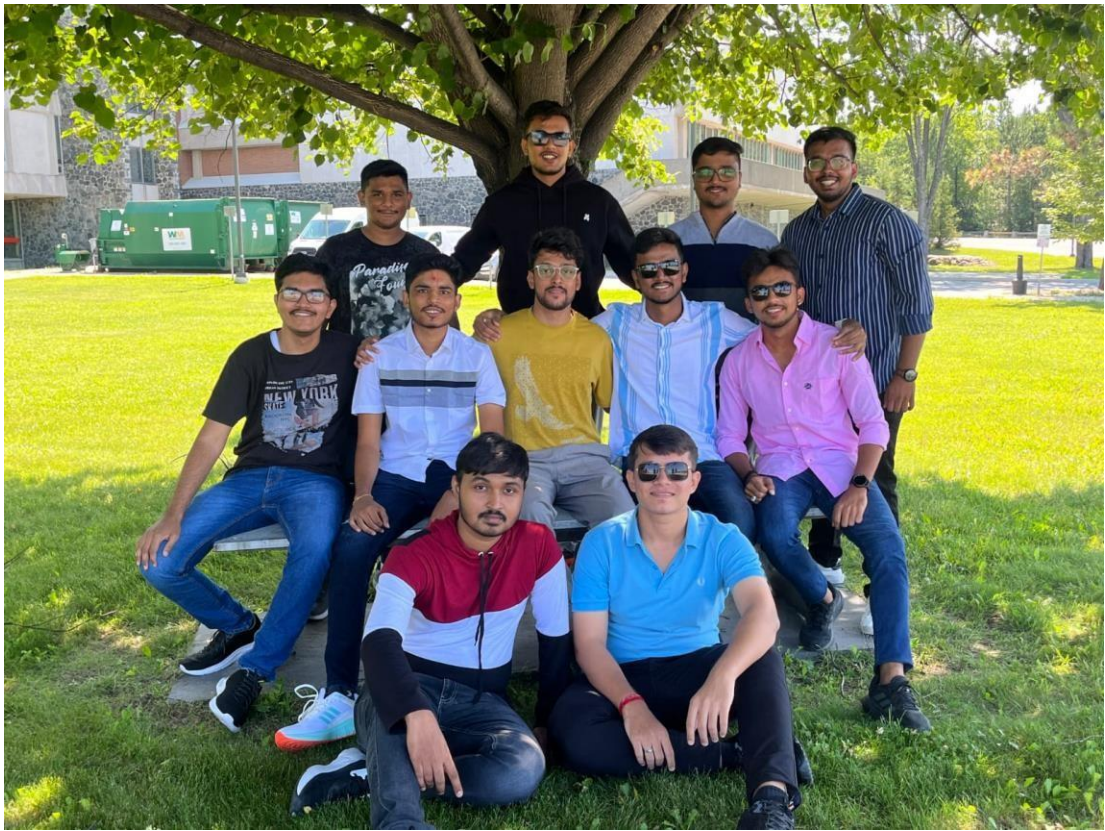




Campus Tour:

As part of the program, we were given a comprehensive campus tour of Laurentian University. The tour showcased the university's state-of-the-art facilities, research centers, and vibrant student life. The campus tour provided us with a glimpse into the Canadian education system and the academic environment.





GROUP DEPARTURE

The first group departed on 14th August at noon from Pearson International Airport, Toronto.

The second group departed on 14th August at 8:00 pm.



Conclusion

The International Experience Program trip to Canada was an immensely rewarding journey that combined academic growth, cultural exploration, and personal enrichment. The completion of two subjects, interaction with diverse cultures, and the opportunity to explore iconic landmarks will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the participants. This program successfully achieved its goals of fostering international understanding and creating memorable experiences for all involved.

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