WATERLOO | CENTRE FOR CAREER ACTION

Jordan Louie - Networking

Transcript

JobMine is a very good resource; it's obviously where people look for their jobs, but remember that it's not the only resource. There's a lot of jobs that won't be listed on JobMine: you can talk to family, friends, aunts and uncles. You can apply to companies directly if you find something that interests you, but often family and friends can connect you to a lot of sources that you never thought of in the first place. The info sessions as well might give a better view of companies that you didn't know apply to you or not. You can network to people there; you can get some free food which is pretty awesome, but family and friends...

Family and friends are your best place to network and realize new opportunities. Unless you have a photographic memory, social networking groups are a great way to keep in touch with people and keep their personal information somewhere where you can contact them easily. From each co-op job, I try to get in contact and get on LinkedIn, my supervisor, mentors and the HR recruiting staff that interviewed me or anyone else that I might eventually try to reach and get in touch with in the company, if I try to get back into that company.

LinkedIn specifically is obviously a great way to network, you can get recommendations, you can build your profile and get online visibility so that's a great social networking tool. Another great way to use the social networks around you is to talk to the HR and recruiters that interviewed you for that position; once you get into the company and use them to help tailor your résumé further. Every term, you should try to update your résumé and then you're polishing it and it's a lot more easy. If you're talking to the recruiters in HR in your co-op term and getting them to help tailor your résumé, it's a lot easier to do that every four months than to do a major résumé overhaul every year.

