We've talked about it, so you had to know it's coming. Now is your chance to get out there and network! Don't be nervous...it's definitely not like the cartoon above!

For this assignment, you will be attending a networking event of your choice. Networking doesn't need to be a formal or fancy affair, it just needs to facilitate the exchange of information in order to establish and perhaps grow some sort of positive relationship to help you in your employment or educational goals.

There are numerous options for you to get out there and network, and although it may feel a little awkward, and perhaps even a little scary, it will be a great start to developing this essential skill. It is imperative that the networking activity you choose align with your career and educational goals, and you have many options to choose from in your community! You are welcome to search meetings for the organizations listed below, or alternatively, you can spend a day (or more) volunteering, or ask someone who reflects your career or educational goals for an informational interview at their convenience. Anything that moves you outside of your comfort zone and out there expanding your professional relationships can be considered networking! It could be as easy as attending a party or gathering with your parent's friends or other adults that you don't know well.

Here of some examples of events or organizations in your community that could provide networking opportunities:

- Any volunteerism in your community - attend an event and talk with others! Many communities have a central volunteer organization where you can sign up, or talk to your Career Programs Advisor or Counsellor
- Campus tours or events at post secondary institutions
- Education or career fairs in your community
- Rotary Club
- Chamber of Commerce events
- Toastmasters events
- Business associations or networks
- Events in your school or community

Here's how it's best to format this assignment, as it will take some planning before, during and after your networking event:

Before the event:
• How did you decide on what networking event to take part in?
• How does this event reflect on your skills, interests or goals?
• How did you research the event, organization or person prior to you attending? What did you learn that you may not already have known?
• What are you most nervous about in preparing for your networking opportunity?   • What are you doing to mitigate those concerns?
During the event:
• While you are at the event, take a picture or a short video of yourself for evidence of your attendance, dress etc. A video can include how you are currently feeling at the event (if you are able to sneak away into a quiet corner!)
• While you are at the event, have at least one meaningful conversation using the tips in your last TEDTalk. Discuss your career or educational goals. Make sure you ask for their name (or better yet, a business card) and ask their permission for you to contact them in the future. Include their name, business name, and contact information in your assignment.
After the event:
• Looking back to your worries and concerns prior to attending the event, did they materialize?
• Is there anything you would do differently prior to attending your next networking event?
Conclusion:
• Provide a thoughtful and thorough reflection of your networking experience.

Networking Assignment – find in the portal under attachments

Assessment

Networking 12 Rubric ✎ 🔍 🗑

Criteria	Ratings				Pts
Before	**4.0 pts** 100% Student has answered, in detail, each question in this column.	**3.0 pts** 75% Student has answered, in detail, most questions in this column.	**2.0 pts** 50% Student has started to answer some of the questions in this column but details are lacking.	**1.0 pts** 25% This portion of the assignment is incomplete.	4.0 pts
During	**4.0 pts** 100% Student has answered, in detail, each question in this column.	**3.0 pts** 75% Student has answered, in detail, most questions in this column.	**2.0 pts** 50% Student has started to answer some of the questions in this column but details are lacking.	**1.0 pts** 25% This portion of the assignment is incomplete.	4.0 pts
After	**4.0 pts** 100% Student has answered, in detail, each question in this column.	**3.0 pts** 75% Student has answered, in detail, most questions in this column.	**2.0 pts** 50% Student has started to answer some of the questions in this column but details are lacking.	**1.0 pts** 25% This portion of the assignment is incomplete.	4.0 pts
Reflection	**4.0 pts** 100% Student has provided a detailed reflection of the networking event and their personal experience.	**3.0 pts** 75% Student has provided a reflection of the networking event and their personal experience.	**2.0 pts** 50% Student has started to provide a reflection of the networking event and their personal experience but critical details are missing.	**1.0 pts** 25% This portion of the assignment is incomplete.	4.0 pts

Total Points: 16.0