

## SHUBHAM'S EXPERIENCE



Life after my arrival from India to Canada was not easy. It was a very sudden change that brought many challenges into my life. It was quite shocking to face a new education system and a completely new atmosphere in my life. I started grade 11 in Fredericton High School in September 2014, and I struggled with communicating in English to others. I joined the school's social and sport clubs to meet local students to help me develop my communication skills.

My parents went to attend English classes at the Multicultural Association because their communication skills in English were low. It was my responsibility to take care of my younger brother, and to help him in his studies after school. I worked a part time job after school and helped my uncle in a grocery store. After high school, I started my education at UNB Fredericton. I struggled in my classes due to my weak English, but it was a new challenge that I needed to face. I had never felt comfortable studying in University until I asked for help from my professors and fellow class mates.

I participated in dance performances and competitions which increased my confidence and made me well known in the local community. Cricket is my favorite sport and my

dream is to represent India in the international games, but I was not happy to move to Canada since

Cricket is not as popular here as it is in India. I did not have much of a problem finding a Cricket club outside of the school, but I found it difficult to find someone to play with in school, but I did not give up my interest in playing cricket. I talked to /my teachers to see if I could give a presentation on Cricket and let other students know about the sport, and they were very kind and gave me the opportunity to present to my peers. It was received very well!

To continue my passion of playing Cricket, I joined the Loyalist Cricket Club in Fredericton, which quickly became my favorite part about coming to Canada. I have been developing my basic technical and behavioral skills of Cricket through this club. When I was 16, I was selected to bae in the Cricket New Brunswick team, and I impressed many people in the provincial tournament games. My teammates motivated me and kept me working hard in order to achieve more in the future. My parents were not happy to support me in Cricket, but I worked hard and made a great impact in the provincial tournaments. My hard work paid off, and gave me the gift of being selected for the Atlantic Cricket team, one of the highest performing teams in Canada.I hope that I will keep working hard in the future and I never give up on my dream!