

How and Why I Volunteered for IEEE

Immigrated to Canada in the year 2001, and chose to live in Vancouver. During that summer, the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) had a Summer Power Meeting in Vancouver. I was fortunate to volunteer for the event with the hope of networking within the professional community and seeking job opportunities in my own profession.

That IEEE networking experience helped me find my first job. At that time, I also completed my Professional Certification requirement, and eventually landed my dream job with BC Hydro, a power utility in beautiful British Columbia.

In gratitude to the IEEE organization that helped me to settle faster in a new country through networking, I started volunteering. Initially,



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even when the opportunities came, I was reluctant to shoulder higher level volunteering responsibilities. However, now that I have an 8-year-old son, I realized that if I do not shoulder higher responsibilities, what kind of example am I setting for my son? I started accepting responsibilities as and when opportunities came my way. In the process, I met several successful personalities and listened to their viewpoints and experiences. I now believe that volunteering is a wonderfully enriching experience personally and professionally. I do believe it is a nice way to give back to society and the community that supported me in many ways.