

# Let's Talk Business

## For Ted Rogers Students

These reports describe industry sectors and career paths of interest to Ted Rogers students and alumni. Each report leverages BCH employment data and the expertise of our staff. This collaborative effort engages staff, students, alumni and the University Business Librarian.

### A Day in the Life in Crypto Operations

This report profiles a TRSM alumni working in the fintech space. She provides you insights into what a day in her life looks like at Wealthsimple.

She also weighs in on important trends within her field and shares invaluable information relevant to those of you aspiring to break into the industry.

Fintech (Financial Technology) is a term used to describe tech companies operating in the financial services sector. Fintech companies are often start-ups that have developed innovative technical solutions in areas such as capital markets, lending, personal finance, wealth management, insurance, blockchain and crypto, and digital banking.

### Meet Sanaa Kahloan, TRSM Alumni (SAF 2022)

Sanaa graduated from TRSM with her Bachelor of Commerce in Finance in 2022. Previously, she worked as a *Customer Happiness Agent* at Mejuri, a *Campus Scout* at Clearco, and an *Investment Analyst* at OPTrust.



[She currently works in Crypto Operations at Wealthsimple.](#)

Wealthsimple is a Toronto-based fintech firm providing smart and simple managed portfolio investing services to help Canadians achieve financial freedom, no matter who they are or what they have.

**Q:** What do you do on a day-to-day basis in Crypto Operations at Wealthsimple?

- A:**
- Working in Crypto, each day is different depending on market conditions, news in the industry and more. As a new grad, I've appreciated the unpredictability of the role since I believe that challenging environments foster innovative thinkers, and force individuals to grow.
  - Business Operations are essentially the "behind-the-scenes" of many organizational functions. For example, my team is responsible for owning, building, and optimizing the back-end processes that power Wealthsimple Crypto.
  - On a day-to-day basis, we manage buys, sells, transfers and withdrawals of all Cryptocurrencies with all our business partners. While running each process, we use data-driven decision making to understand how we can optimize our processes. Transactions within Crypto are very different than those of other currencies, so it's been very interesting to learn about the procedures in place.

- A:** **Cont'd**
- We also work cross functionally with teams like Engineering, Product, Legal & Client Experience to prioritize and execute on upcoming initiatives.
  - Some days are busier than others, and a big portion of this relies on the trends in Crypto Markets. Adapting and being curious have been my key to success, thus far.

**Q: What technology platforms do you use in your role?**

- A:** Wealthsimple uses a variety of platforms to get the job done. My team heavily relies on Periscope and Microsoft Excel for conducting data analysis'. We also use other products within MS Office, and collaborative tools such as Slack and Zoom.



**Q: How does your industry impact the world?**

- A:**
- The general interest in Crypto has significantly heightened since the beginning of the pandemic. Crypto has innovated on the existing financial space and is creating new opportunities for individuals and businesses, however, there is still required development before it can be more widely used.
  - In regard to fintech, we've disrupted the banking industry by offering an improved customer-centric approach. Many Fintechs are newer than traditional banks, giving consumers more options to choose from for their products and services.

**Q: What advice would you provide a TRSM student who aspires to work in Fintech upon graduation?**

- A:**
- Learn about the business! Become an expert on the products and services provided, so that once you join the team, you're able to contribute as a full-fledged member.
  - Network! As always, networking will get you much further than a cold application. Don't be afraid to ping individuals on LinkedIn and set up some coffee chats.
  - Learn the applicable hard skills. Things like beginner code experience and proficiency in MS Excel will make the learning curve much easier!
  - Go easy on yourself. It can be hard to get into a new space. Take it day by day and ask for feedback along the way. Best of luck!

**Q: Which industry trends should students be aware of?**

- A:** Unfortunately, due to market conditions, many Fintechs have recently announced rescinded offers and even lay-offs. Don't let this discourage you from entering the space, but be sure to ask yourself questions like: Do I truly believe in the company's vision and business model? Markets are constantly changing so these things can be unpredictable, but I personally believe you shouldn't let the unknown stop you from trying something new.

## Interested In Learning More?



### FinTech Canada Conference

Fintech Canada is a conference organized by the Digital Finance Institute



### MaRS Discovery District

A Downtown Toronto based incubator providing services to start-ups, MaRS has a dedicated jobs board for finding work at start-ups in all areas of Tech - fintech included.

## Visit the Business Career Hub

### Employer Events

The BCH hosts several employer events to prepare you for your professional career. Refer to your weekly BCH Careers Newsletter for a list of upcoming events.

### Bootcamps/Prep Programs

Advance your technical and soft skills, earn digital badges, and gain an advantage in today's workforce through bootcamps. [Click here to register for current bootcamps.](#)

### Coaching & Mock Interview

For career coaching, interview prep and more, [schedule a 1:1 appointment](#) with a Career Consultant or a Co-op Coordinator.



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### Career Consultant Tanya Skydan

Tanya Skydan is a Career Consultant with 5+ years of campus recruitment experience. Tanya is a TRSM alumni who is passionate about providing students the tools needed to be successful in the workplace today and the future.



### Student Contributor Julian Davis

Julian is a 3rd year Economics and Management Science Co-op student, working at the BCH as a Data Analyst. He is passionate about value-driven data science and analytics, particularly in the field of finance and insurance.



### Student Contributor Ajenth Suthanathan

Ajenth is a 4th year Human Resources Management student working part-time at the BCH. He is an aspiring HR professional looking to join the Talent Acquisition field.