

Let's Talk Business

For Ted Rogers School Students

These reports describe industry sectors and career paths of interest to Ted Rogers School 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.

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A Day in the Life of an 'Audit Manager'

We had a conversation with Kerthana Ratnasamy, who graduated from Ted Rogers School of Management with her Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting in 2021. Kerthana previously worked with PwC as an Experienced Audit Associate.

She currently works as an *Audit Manager* at CIBC. 

[CIBC](#), also known as Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce is a multinational banking and financial service, headquartered in Toronto.



[Kerthana Ratnasamy](#)

Q: What do you do on a "day-to-day" basis in your role as an *Audit Manager* at CIBC?

A: As an *Audit Manager* at CIBC, not every day is the same which makes the job much more engaging and provides me the opportunity to learn something new every day.

There is always something changing in the economy which has an impact on financial institutions. As an internal auditor, it is important to be aware of new changes in regulations and think outside the box about how changes in the economy could pose threats and risks to the financial institution.

On a daily basis, I review company policies and research regulations applicable to financial institutions so I can create audit test steps to ensure CIBC is compliant. I also conduct fieldwork in the form of inquiry and walkthrough calls with different teams. As an Auditor, it is crucial to be flexible and adapt to different working patterns as you are working with teams across the Bank.

As an *Audit Manager*, I work independently on special projects, and in teams when working on an audit. I often face tight deadlines so it is crucial for me to be efficient and problem-solve to ensure deadlines are met.

At the same time, it is important for me to maintain professional skepticism when communicating with clients and conducting audit fieldwork.

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

A: As an *Audit Manager*, I use Microsoft Teams and Outlook to communicate with my team. In addition, my team uses Microsoft Word, Excel and Team Mate+ to document all audit findings.



Q: How does your industry impact the world?

A: Auditing provides users of financial statements with the assurance that financial statements are presented fairly and in accordance with international accounting standards. Auditing provides many businesses with the opportunity to reflect on their performance and identify flaws in business processes and implement effective solutions.

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

A: Through my exposure to the audit industry, I have noticed an increase in data analytics in various audit engagements. Data Analysis has been used to improve audit quality in various audit fieldwork procedures.

Data Analytics may enable many routine aspects of the audit to be automated, allowing Auditors to devote more time to challenging matters requiring professional judgment. I would recommend students get exposure to data analysis software, such as Power BI.

Q: What advice would you provide a Ted Rogers student who aspires to work in your industry?

A: Don't stick to your comfort zone!

As a new Grad, having numerous Co-op experiences and skills is a great asset. Network and keep in touch with your peers and get involved with campus extracurriculars and networking events. You never know - you may bump into your former colleagues, classmates, and instructors!

It can be hard to start a new job that is partly virtual, but this is our new reality! Keeping in touch with your peers will help down the road. It's a small world and people are more than willing to help or talk. Be positive and open-minded- the audit industry is a great environment to develop within, as you will be placed in a challenging environment every day, where your knowledge and skills will be put to the test.

As a young professional, you may not always know everything when it comes to accounting standards, trends and new software can sometimes feel overwhelming, but it's so important to be open-minded, positive and action-oriented.

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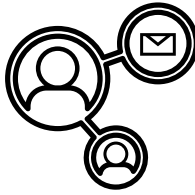
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Career Consultant Contributor Carey Khoo

Carey is a Ted Rogers Alum from the Retail Management program and has student recruitment experience within the public sector. Carey is passionate about providing students with career guidance that allows them to develop, implement, and sustain meaningful careers.



Student Contributor Yike Cheng

Yike is a Hospitality and Tourism Management Co-op student and worked as a Project Coordinator for the Business Career Hub. She is passionate about sharing her experiences and developing a career in project management.