# Purpose
This qualitative study is the 3rd phase of a multi-phase project, documenting transfer and international students’ perspectives on their sense of belonging within the Child and Youth Care (CYC) student community.

# Method
Two semi-structured focus groups were conducted on separate occasions. One specifically for transfer-identified students and the other for internationally-identified students.

# Dissemination of Findings
The findings along with the recommendations will be presented to the staff and faculty at their monthly department meeting. This presentation will be filmed and uploaded onto Course Spaces for all CYC students to access.

### Recommendations

**Orientation**: Transfer-specific orientation that is CYC-focused and have international CYC specific tours sponsored by Child and Youth Care Students’ Society (CYCSS)

**Cultural Inclusion**: Opportunities to learn more about the Canadian culture; provide support in helping international students navigate Canadian living; have opportunities to write about all cultures in assignments; request international guest speakers; provide clarification in syllabus and international options for assignments; and lastly have professors trained to be more culturally-informed, globally-minded, and aware of differences (e.g., study habits)

**Mentoring**: Both groups stated that a peer mentoring program would be beneficial

**Academic Support**: Writing centre to have a CYC student hour with help for CYC-specific papers

**CYCSS**: Create a "welcome" letter to be put into the acceptance package specifically from the board members; have the CYCSS provide more information about what constitutes the student society and define the roles of the board members; and create a flexible schedule for student society meetings

**Social Events**: Continue having Connect the Dots events; add a CYC mixer for transfer students before school begins; create opportunities to mingle with other CYC students (years 1-4) in an environment where non-school related conversations are encouraged; adapt social events similar to the ones within the International student society; and create more networking events

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