Study in Canada
Winter 2010 (1st Semester)
Pre-Departure

- Talk to your chosen institute representative – begin communicating with them

- Check relevant web pages regarding Visas and if unsure ring the Embassy

- Passports take up to 6 weeks mine was in pretty quickly

- Ensure you read all instructions on the application

- Check what is actually supplied in the accommodation
Luggage restrictions depend on airline double check with actual carrier prior to booking

Keep eye for flight/seat sales on flights

Ensure to take something to rest your neck on/ pillow for sleeping

Do your research
Insurance

• Look at what the insurance covers you for

• CSU offers a coverage but it is rather basic

• Ensure you know what you are hoping to do and look carefully at the fine print

• At LU we had to get UHIP which is a health insurance for international students - compulsory

• Again do your research
• Ensure to keep money set aside for bus pass ($70)

• 3 phases of accommodation
  – Townhouses
  – Apartments
  – Dorms

• Meal plans are available

• Layout is good accommodation is within walking distance of main campus and most buildings connected by tunnels
Course Info

• Ensure subjects are in right semester

• Some courses have pre-reqs, depending on the course you may be able to do but usually wise to avoid such subjects

• LU is exam based learning (mainly)

• Subject list can be found on the web but be advised that language does change from country to country. Subjects are called courses in Canada
Transport – Thunder Bay

- Bus pass is must if not made friends with someone who has a car

- Public transit is fairly good

- Timetable for the buses is readily available and NextBus allows you to check when the next two buses will be at particular stop

- Taxi services are fairly expensive
Expenses

- Watch the exchange rate
- Several fees including ancillary fees – check this out
- Food expenses – figure out whether you want to purchase food or meal plan it :D
- Superstore is best for groceries
- Value village and Salvation Army awesome places
- Watch out for the taxes
Holiday Travel

• Ideas
  – Local area
  – Close to the border
  – USA is awesome
  – Toronto

• Make friends with other students and go home with them

• Excellent ski hills in surrounding area and the US

• Again do your research and check visa requirements
Social activities

• Varsity games
• LUSU events
• Local team games
• Res Sports
• House events
• Gym sports
• Everything is in French and English…

• Culture shock varies depending on individual, big difference in stores and food variety.

• Ensure that you don’t offend Indigenous peoples

• Immerse yourself in the culture
Weather

• Cold in winter great in summer

• Layers are key to success

• Don’t bring stuff gear here is better suited to conditions

• Do your research
  – There are 2 main used clothes stores
  – Excellent for getting non essentials really cheap
  – Mittens/gloves and bennies are MUST
What bring/needs for homesickness

- Bring only the basics

- Most normal things can be purchased here

- Bring any medications plus some extra. Drugs vary slightly BYO panadol etc.

- Bring teddy bear or plush toy…

- Get family to send care package (allow bout 20 days for postage though)
Need to buy

- Linen is not supplied

- Main gear including laundry supplies, kitchen supplies (sometimes people will share), bathroom supplies and room supplies (i.e. stationary, text books)

- Phone card for long distance calls

- Creature comforts

- Course dependent potential safety equipment
Relationships

- Make friends with your housemates/roomies
- Keep active in the university's very own gymnasium where many classes available
- Go to meet and greet
- Ensure get out and do the orientation activities
- Everyone is different
Enjoy Canada