Over the course of the past several months, I have had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Youth Support Youth (YSY) program, where I have been able to guide and support students in overcoming academic challenges and navigating the complexities of school life. Serving as a leader in this program has allowed me to fulfill my mission of helping newcomers to Vancouver become acquainted with their new environment, educational system, and address any concerns or hesitations they may have, particularly in relation to their academic pursuits.

Engaging in the YSY program has been a transformative experience for me, providing me with invaluable lessons and personal growth. One of the most significant benefits has been the enhancement of my communication skills, as I have had the privilege of engaging in meaningful conversations with students, understanding their unique struggles, and providing guidance and support. Through these interactions, I have been able to foster an environment of trust and empathy, making it easier for students to open up about their concerns and seek assistance.

Furthermore, serving as a leader in the YSY program has contributed to the development of my confidence and organizational skills. Taking on the responsibility of guiding and mentoring others has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone, take charge of situations, and effectively address challenges. This has not only empowered me but has also enabled me to inspire and motivate students to strive for their academic goals.

One aspect of the YSY program that has been particularly fulfilling is my specialization in helping students with difficulties in Social Studies. Through this program, I have been given a platform to extend my assistance beyond my immediate circle, reaching out to a wider audience who may be grappling with various academic needs. It has been gratifying to witness the positive impact I can have on these students' lives, as I guide them through complex concepts, provide study strategies, and instill in them a sense of confidence and determination.

I am immensely grateful for the privilege of being selected as a YSY leader and for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others. This program has not only allowed me to contribute to the community but has also enriched my own personal growth and development. The satisfaction that comes from being a youth leader and helping fellow students overcome their academic obstacles is immeasurable, and I am truly proud to be part of such a meaningful initiative.

In conclusion, the YSY program has provided me with an incredible platform to support and guide students in their academic journeys. It has sharpened my communication skills, boosted my confidence, and honed my organizational abilities. Serving as a leader in this program has been a deeply rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to help others and make a positive impact in their lives.

Michelle Lee - Point Grey Secondary School G10