



## **Feature Day in the Life – Ernest Mashingaidze**

**The insurance industry can offer you variety and stability, all while encouraging your ongoing education. We recently had the chance to speak with Ernest Mashingaidze, a Property Claims Adjuster with over 3 years of experience in the sector.**

**He shares his insights into how he ended up in insurance, why he loves it and his advice for anyone looking to connect to a career in the industry!**

### **Starting Out**



**Ernest Mashingaidze**

Insurance is a part of everything; whether you are driving a car, buying a house, or going on vacation, everyone has a need for insurance. For many, the insurance industry is not on the radar as a possible career path, but it was for Ernest.

A close friend of his landed a job as an auto adjuster, and would tell him regularly about the amazing day he had at work, and all the various claims scenarios he was working on. Ernest found himself thinking, and talking about insurance more each day.

“That’s when I *knew* I wanted to join the industry” he says.

## Finding the Right Fit

The insurance industry offers a wide variety of careers, no matter what your skills or interests are. “I actually started in life and health insurance” Ernest tells us. He has held many roles in the industry; from billings to contracts, and then moving into adjusting. After completing his Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) designation, Ernest then moved over to the Property and Casualty side of the insurance industry.

“What I can say helped me progress in my career is continued professional development and mentorship programs” he says.

The insurance industry is always encouraging continued education and career advancement opportunities. There is room for growth, and the opportunity to find a role that aligns with your goals. “Professional development helped me understand the nuances and complexities of the industry, and therefore I felt I was ready to take on more responsibility” he tells us. “And, a mentor gave me the real world outlook and advice I needed to take action and make those career moves”.

Now, Ernest works as a property claims adjuster, and is responsible for the investigation, negotiation, and settlement of property claims. “The claims I deal with can be as simple as a

bike theft from a backyard in the morning, to a complex water damage claim on multiple levels in an apartment building in the afternoon” he says. His career always keeps him on his toes. There is never a dull moment for him in the insurance industry!

## Why Insurance?

Ernest loves his career in insurance, and knew from the beginning that the industry was right for him. “I enjoy being part of an industry that stimulates economic growth” he tells us. He also enjoys giving back, and has found a great fit in an industry that is largely recognized for giving back to the community. “My current role in particular is one that allows me to help the insured to rebuild their lives after tragedy occurs” he says.

## Advice and Insights

Ernest continues to grow his love for the insurance industry each and every day. “I recently became a Career Connections Ambassador and, I have also been given a chance to represent my company at career events” he tells us. As an Ambassador, Ernest encourages students, graduates, and career changers to explore a career in the insurance industry. “The industry is stable and allows opportunity for individuals to grow and excel” he explains.

When he meets someone with an interest in insurance he always tells them not to wait. “The insurance industry is growing fast, and the sooner you can connect with your skills, interests, and experience, the sooner we can grow together”!