



Celebrating Our Successes: London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership (LMLIP)

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Education Sub-council

Immigrant learners at all levels (ESL, LINC, elementary, secondary and post-secondary) have access to timely and appropriate programs and services



Welcoming All Voices



- Developed the *Welcoming All Voices* workshop, resources and training materials for school based parent leaders, to support their efforts to welcome, involve, and engage immigrant parents
 - Presented *Welcoming All Voices* resources to school-based parent groups, including school councils and at the 2013 *Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations Annual Conference*, and the 2013 *TVPIC Parent Engagement Annual Conference*
 - 84% of participants found the workshop helpful in increasing understanding about helping immigrant parents feel more welcome in the school community
 - 96% found that they would likely use the tools and activities provided in their schools
- Future Directions**
- Create a *Welcoming All Voices* digital video resource for independent implantation of the *Welcoming All Voices* resources



Employment Sub-council

Immigrants have timely access to a wide range of employment related supports, including mentorship, bridging, job search programs credential assessment, and Employment



Employment - Collaborative Projects

- Employment Checklist** - Collaborated with the London Middlesex Immigrant Employment Council to develop a list of strategies to implement during the search for work
- Professional Networking Event** - Collaborated with the City of London to conduct a networking event with professional immigrant job seekers and senior staff of the City of London



Future Directions

- Self-Employment Workshops** - Collaborating with the Small Business Centre and the Employment Sector Council London Middlesex to deliver 2 information sessions about self-employment
- On-Line Search Tool** - Collaborating with the City of London to develop an on-line search tool for immigrant job seekers

Health & Wellbeing Sub-council

Immigrant health and wellbeing is supported through a range of programming including mental health, impact of trauma/war, access to services, recreation, nutrition, and life skills



Seeds of Change

- Increasing awareness and connecting immigrants to mental health and addiction services
- Engaged 280 people from 30+ service agencies and 32 cultural groups
- 10 conversation circles that engaged 62 people
- 2 community forums reached 400 people



Future Directions

- Continue to promote *Seeds of Change* resources
- Seek funding to continue and expand the project

Introduction

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership is a collaborative community initiative designed to strengthen the role of local and regional communities in serving and integrating immigrants

It is one of 34 Local Immigration Partnerships in Ontario funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and supported by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

LMLIP Purpose

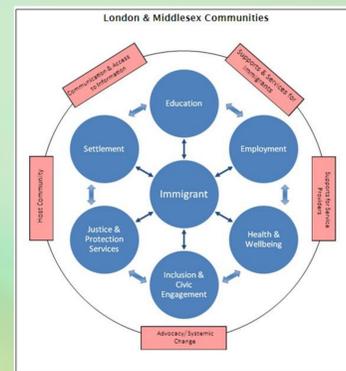
- To strengthen local and regional communities in serving and integrating immigrants
- To provide a collaborative framework for and facilitate the development and implementation of sustainable local and regional solutions for successful integration of immigrants
- To enable our community to put immigration on their overall planning agenda and benefit from the successful social and economic integration of new immigrants

LMLIP Goals

- Improved access to services
- Coordinated provision of services
- Improved labour market outcomes
- Strengthened strategic capacity of municipality on immigration issues
- Increased community capacity to respond to emerging needs
- Increased community awareness of immigrant integration needs

LMLIP is

- a volunteer driven Council with 125 members and the support of close to 100 organizations and ethnic associations
- guided by a Central Council and six issue specific Sub-councils



Principles

The work of the Council is guided by the following principles:

- Inclusivity:** Our scope will be inclusive of all immigrants in London and Middlesex, regardless of their immigration status, citizenship, age, gender, health status, sexual orientation and number of years in our community.
- Advocacy:** Advocacy for the integration of immigrants.
- Collaboration:** There is an inherent mutual responsibility between our community and immigrants.
- Diversity:** We respect diversity within immigrant communities and build understanding across immigrant communities and cultures.
- Social Justice:** We will seek to promote inclusion and civic engagement of all immigrants and work toward changes to ensure their integration.
- Client Centered:** The holistic needs of the individual are at the centre of our work.
- Empowerment:** We will enhance and restore their capacity to live a healthy life and to enable them to make informed decisions.

LMLIP Central Council

Provides strategic direction and oversight to the LMLIP Council including: continued consulting with the community, partnering with existing initiatives and exploring opportunities that will enhance outcomes for immigrants



Community Partnerships

- Engages with local government, service organizations, businesses, and community members to develop and support integration services for immigrants
- Collaborated and consulted with community partners and made recommendations for the TVDSB Accommodation Review Committee regarding closure of a public School - Lorne Ave. P.S.
- 285 participants attended the 2013 public education community event, *From Policy to Practice: Local Solutions to Ensuring a Welcoming Community*



Future Directions

- Continue the strategic engagement of all levels of governments, service providers and the community at large to enhance outcomes for immigrants

Inclusion & Civic Engagement Sub-council

Social, parental, child and cultural supports are available to ensure that all immigrants are included and engaged in our community



Media Campaign

- Developed the DVD *London: A Newcomer's Story* to raise awareness about immigrants' challenges and successes
- Developed *I Am London* social media campaign to showcase London's diversity and create awareness about the immigrant communities and their contributions, further engaging in creating a welcoming community
- Close to 200 Likes on Facebook and 150 Twitter followers
- Media coverage included print, visual and audio



Future Directions

- Engage media to promote immigrant personalities and issues, including local magazines and papers
- Examine the feasibility of creating an annual *I Am London* social media campaign

Justice & Protection Services Sub-council

Immigrants understand the Canadian justice system and have access to information and supports related to the preventative services such as criminal justice, child welfare and other services



Immigrant Community Capacity Engagement Project

- Vietnamese and Karen communities were the focus of this project
- 4 focus groups were attended by a total of 64 individuals
- Curriculum was developed to provide information about emergency services, child welfare, domestic violence support, criminal and court information
- 179 participants from the 2 communities attended 6 session series of workshops
- Service providers information forum was held, with 50 + organizations

Future Directions

- Procure funding to expand the project to others, starting with Arabic and Spanish communities

Settlement Sub-council

Immigrants' settlement experience is positive and welcoming through the availability of interpretation services, housing, transitional services, information, and referrals



Family Settlement Collaborative

- Established the Family Settlement Collaborative with 15 service providers
- Developed workshops to address emerging issues related to family challenges
- Delivered 13 workshops at two language instruction sites for 200 permanent resident language learners
- 15 service organizations currently delivering workshops at Language Instruction for New Canadians (LINC) sites throughout London
- Participants indicated that they benefit from the workshops, in a short survey completed at the end of the workshops

Future Directions

- Continue to deliver workshops according to immigrants' needs, at LINC sites across the city