

A close-up photograph of a stained glass window. The window features intricate black leaded glass patterns. On the right side, there are vibrant, multi-colored sections in shades of purple, red, orange, and blue. The rest of the window is composed of clear glass with black outlines forming various geometric and organic shapes.

Pathways to Prosperity:
November 30, 2015

Being Faithful: The Place of Faith Communities in Supporting Newcomer Social and Cultural Integration

Rich Janzen

A close-up photograph of a stained glass window, similar to the one at the top. It shows black leaded glass patterns with circular and floral motifs. The colors are primarily black, white, and grey, with some subtle hints of color in the background.



Centre for Community Based Research

- Non-profit organization established in 1982, affiliated with St. Paul's University College, Waterloo, Ontario
- Over 380 projects creating responsive and supportive communities
- Over 65 projects related to immigration, including:
 - Employment
 - Mental health
 - Parenting
 - Youth
 - Hate crimes
 - Pre-arrival services
 - Local immigration partnerships

Evaluation

Applied Research

Training

Proposal Development

Facilitation and Planning

Community Mobilization

The Power of
Knowledge
to Impact
Change





But what about Faith Communities?

The Role of Churches in Immigrant Settlement and Integration

- A 2-year (2013-2015) national research partnership
- Purpose: better equip church groups across Canada to help immigrants and refugees settle and integrate
- Partners: Academics and church leaders from across the country
- Funder: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada



Historical Involvement

- Faith groups were at the heart of the rise of social services in North America in the late 19th and early 20th Century
- Historic contribution of faith groups in immigrant settlement
 - Support to newcomer co-religionists
 - Social networks/social capital/social mobility
 - Establishing newcomer places of worship
 - Inner-city networks of support
 - Refugee sponsorship/rights
- Rise of publically-funded settlement services in past 40 years



Today's Involvement

- Wide-ranging and holistic supports
- Motivated both by faith and a sense of shared humanity
- Tend to be reactive to presenting need
- Includes the unique contribution of newcomer congregations

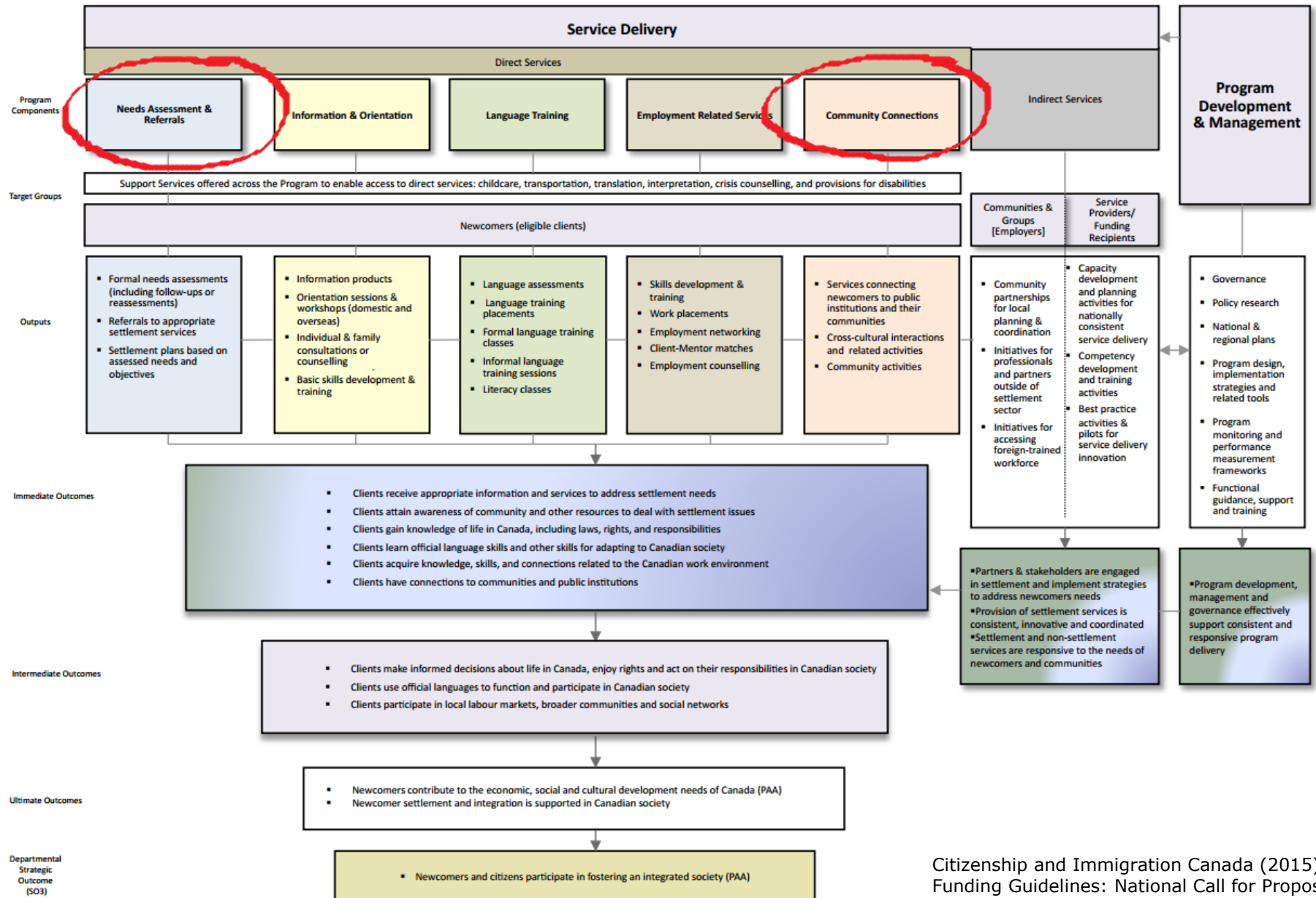


The Place of Faith Communities in Supporting Newcomer Integration

- Relationships
- Partnerships

Annex A: Settlement Program—Logic Model¹¹

Settlement Program Logic Model - As of April 1st, 2013





Filling a Relational Niche

- Informal support as a complement to formalized services
- Nimble response to needs as they emerge on the journey of life
- Mutuality that comes with friendship
- Deepens community connections



Developing Partnerships

- Faith groups don't need to do everything themselves
- Limited awareness of government-funded settlement sector
- Require better needs assessment, referral systems and collaborations that leverage each other's strengths

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Further Information...

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Project Website

<http://www.communitybasedresearch.ca/Page/View/PDG>

Recent Publications

Janzen, R., Stobbe, A., Dejean, F., & Ochocka, J. (2015). The role of churches in immigrant settlement. *Canadian Diversity/ Diversité Canadienne (CDC). Partnering for settlement success: Facilitating integration and inclusion*. Association for Canadian Studies (ACS).

Janzen, R., Stobbe, A., Chapman, M., & Watson, J. (accepted). Canadian Christian churches as partners in immigrant settlement and integration. *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*.