



City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

Pathways to Prosperity 2016 National Conference
(Ottawa, ON)

December 2, 2016



Toronto Newcomer Office

- The City of Toronto Newcomer Office takes a leadership role in promoting the inclusion and local prosperity of newcomers in Toronto by facilitating the implementation of the Toronto Newcomer Strategy and the Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program.
- Funded by IRCC as Toronto's city-wide Local Immigration Partnership (LIP)



City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

Total to Canada: 34,696 (as of Nov 4th)

Total to Ontario: 12,450

Total to Toronto: > 5,000

- 1,941 GARs
- 2,650 PSRs
- 380 BVORs

**Numbers are approximate*

PSRs- Privately Sponsored Refugees
GARs - Government Sponsored Refugees
BVORs - Blended Visa-Office Referred



City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

- Approved by City Council on Oct. 2, 2015
- Implementation through Toronto Newcomer Office
- Goal - to mobilize existing supports, while facilitating enhancements where needed
- Focus on strategies that can create the most impact



City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

Key Considerations

- Toronto has a long history of welcoming newcomers
- Toronto has a strong and established settlement sector
- Key systems are in place, preparations have been made
- Focus on high-impact activities
- Particular focus on private sponsorships



City of Toronto Refugee Resettlement Program

Initial Priorities

- Appropriate supports for PSRs and their sponsors
- Housing for all refugees

Actions Initiated

- Inter-Divisional Team
- Inter-Agency Task Force
- Public awareness campaign
- Support to community partners
- Webpage, other communication
- Inter-governmental relations

GO BACK
TO WHERE YOU
CAME FROM.

WHERE,
NORTH YORK?



MUSLIMS ARE PART OF TORONTO.

OCASI
Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants



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Key Outcomes

- Children's Services provided childcare at the Plaza Hotel for children ages 0-8.
- Parks, Forestry & Recreation drop-in program attended by over 200 children and youth ages 8-16 staying at the Plaza Hotel.
- Over 4000 doses of vaccine administered by Toronto Public Health to approximately 1,800 Syrian newcomers at temporary hotel sites.
- School-readiness programs held by TDSB/TCSD, attended by over 500 refugee children staying at hotel sites.



Cross-Sectoral Collaboration

- Inter-Divisional Team
- Inter-Agency Task Force
- Ongoing communication with all levels of government
- Ongoing communication with City divisions
- Collaboration with Quadrant LIPs and other community agencies



Current Focus & Next Steps

- Integrated service planning for 'Month 13'
- Ensuring appropriate supports for Syrian children & youth
- Ongoing coordination of rent supplement program
- Expansion of Newcomer Services in City Facilities



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