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PATHWAYS TO  
PROSPERITY 2019

**UNLOCKING THE  
POTENTIAL OF REFUGEES,  
NEWCOMERS AND  
MIGRANTS IN CANADA**



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**OCCASI**  
Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants

**How to finally  
unlock the external  
barriers that  
prevent to fully  
benefit from the  
potential of people  
invited here?**



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A safe place with access to  
services regardless of the  
immigration status

An inclusive place recognizing  
and encouraging all potential

A place called home

## A safe place with access to services regardless of the immigration status

- Eliminate immigration detention with a priority to remove all children and their parents/guardians immediately from detention
- Open up access to the Canada Child benefit program so that all children resident in Canada regardless of immigration status may benefit



A SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE PLACE



- Pressure on regulatory bodies to finally recognize international credentials.
- Reopen the Federal Employment Equity Act to include immigrants as recognized group in the Act and extend its reach to no-federally regulated sectors. Tie transfer payments to provinces to their establishment of employment equity regimes.

**An inclusive place recognizing  
and encouraging all potential**

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# *Color of poverty: some data*



**41%**

of chronically poor  
immigrants  
have degrees



Racialized men are

**24%**

more likely to be  
unemployed than non-  
racialized men



Racialized women are

**43%**

more likely to be  
unemployed than non-  
racialized men

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Low-income rate

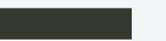
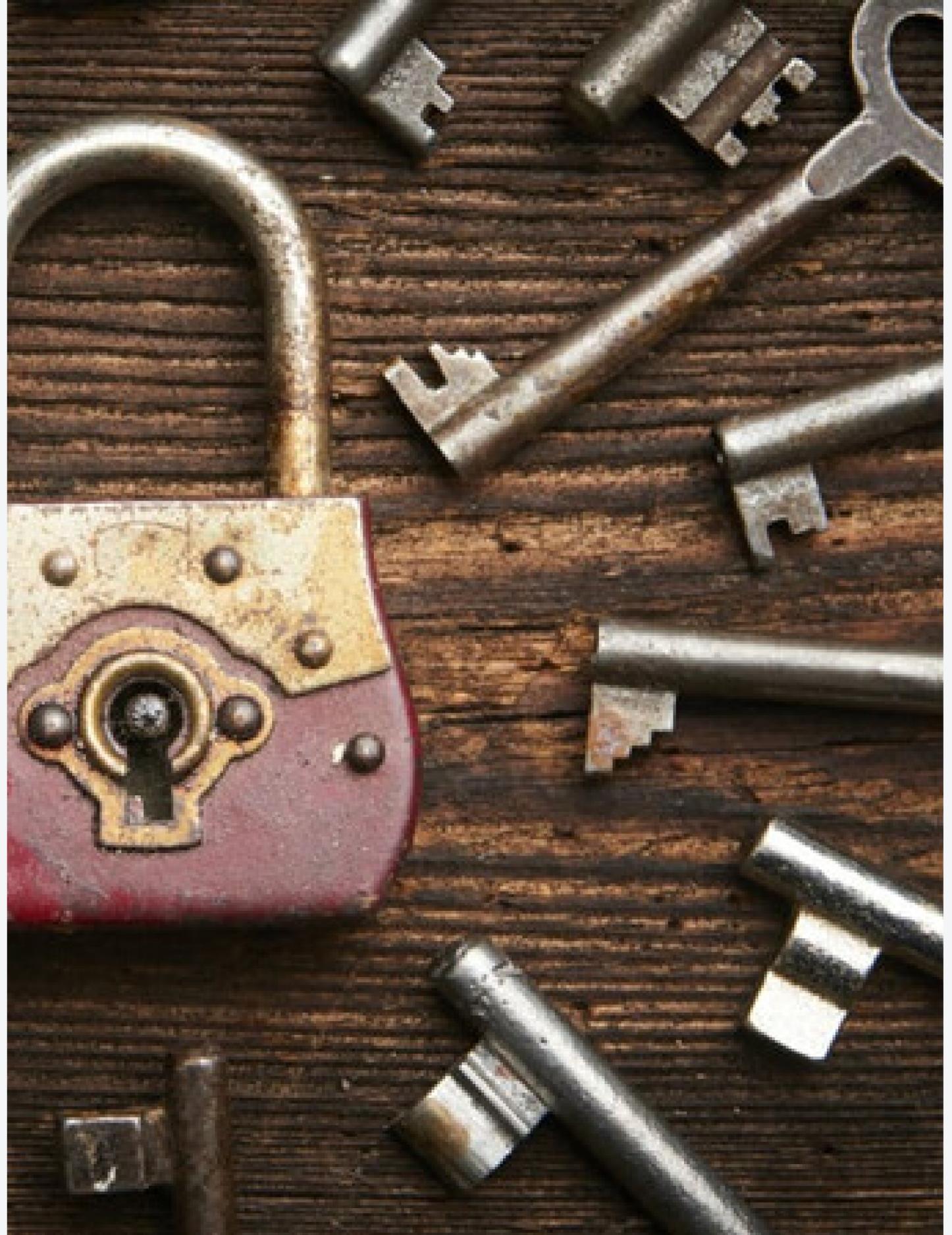
**31.4%**

For recent immigrants

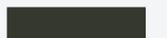
**Compared to**

**12.5%**

for non-immigrants

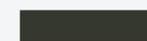


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- Improve support models to better address the specific needs of racialized newcomers and women and improve access to high-quality training and employment programs for newcomers and refugees (employment and training opportunities linked to language at work)
  - More strategic relationships for service providers with employers to ensure link between training, language and workplaces.





**A place called home**





## Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments

- Ensure a comprehensive housing strategy that invests in building affordable, adequately sized rental units.
- Prioritize refugees for social and supportive housing
- Improve shelter and housing conditions
- Implement measures to stop racial profiling
- Reinforce the Residential Tenancies Act

## Funding

- More funding for ethno-racial centered organizations
- Review and revision of funding to women specific organizations
- Fund collaboration among sector organizations

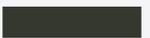
## Cross sector recommendations

- More administrative data sharing
- Collecting and reporting out of disaggregated data on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, faith/spirituality and/or country of origin
- Raise public awareness about mutual benefit of immigration and community inclusiveness



## Service providers

Foster strategic relationships with landlords: given the limited housing supply, shift focus from subsidized housing to building and developing relationships with private market rental landlords.



THANK  
YOU

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