

# Operation Welcome Home a pilot project

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#### Outline:

- Current landscape
- Needs assessment
- Project description
- Project outcomes
- Opportunities & lesson learnt

News release (March 17, 2022 – Ottawa)

The <u>Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency</u> <u>travel</u> (CUAET) is one of the many special measures the government of Canada has introduced to support the people of Ukraine. It offers Ukrainians and their family members free, extended temporary status and allows them to work, study and stay in Canada until it is safe for them to return home.

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

March 30, 2022—Ottawa—Canada remains steadfast in its commitment to welcome Ukrainians and their families and to provide a Safe Haven while the war continues in their home country. but their journey does not end when they enter Canada, and we are working to provide additional supports for Ukrainians once they arrive.

The Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, announced that Canada is offering temporary Federal support to help Ukrainians settle in their new communities including settlement program services, which are typically only available to permanent residents.



#### Immigration measures and support for Ukrainians and their families





#### Apply for the CUAET

Apply for the Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel



#### Get help in Canada

Get support, services and information to help get you started in Canada



#### Get financial assistance

Apply for a one-time payment to cover your basic needs



#### Jan 1- Oct 30, 2022

Ukrainian citizens and returning Canadian permanent residents of Ukrainian origin have arrived in Canada

Arrived in Canada by land 16,580

Arrived in Canada by air 95,486

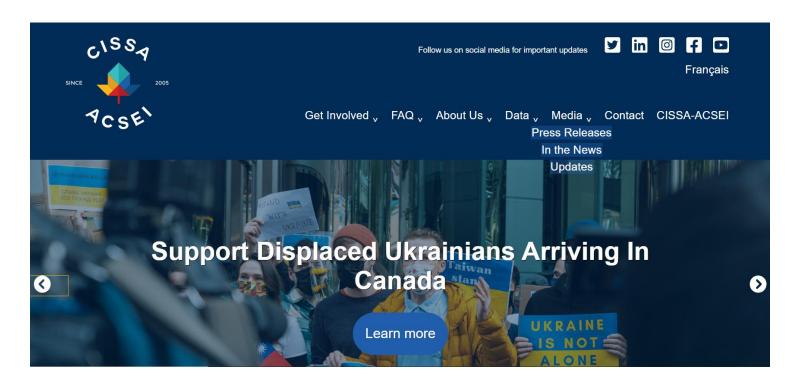
Applications received 662,563

Applications approved 360,922

<sup>\*9-10%</sup> having arrived in Vancouver BC.

The IRCC has also created a Ukraine crosssectoral collaboration governance table, which brings together settlement sector leadership, provincial and territorial representatives, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Canadian red cross, federal partners and other stakeholders. This table facilitates communication and collaboration on the Ukraine response and helps to triage logistics for cash donations and volunteers.

# Ukraine Safe Haven is created to provide resources



https://ukrainesafehaven.ca/survey-analysis/

#### Multiple barriers & challenges:

- Language
- Employment
- Housing
- Child care
- Scams
- Financial hardship
- Trauma
- Mental, social & physical health
- Loss of sense of belonging

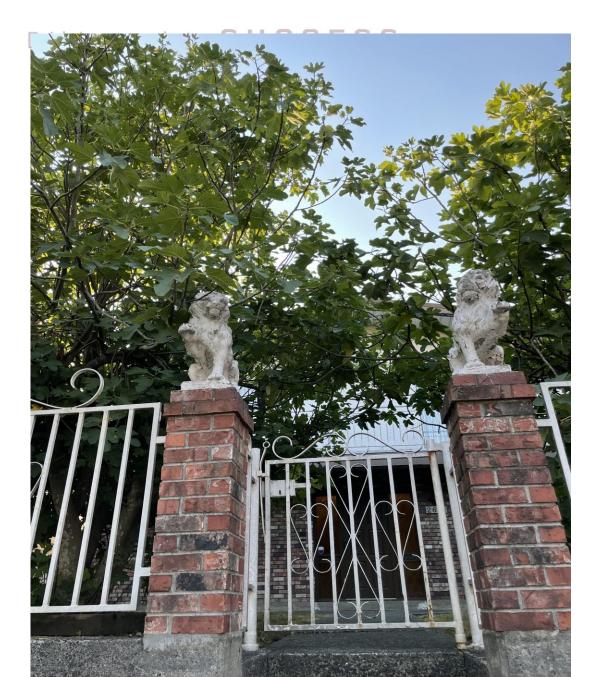


#### **BC.CTV NEWS.CA.MP4**

## Operation Welcome Home

- Transitionary housing program
- Wrap-around settlement & employment services
- To move away from the hotels unsettling
- Orientation & settlement including language, employment training
- Community & cultural connections





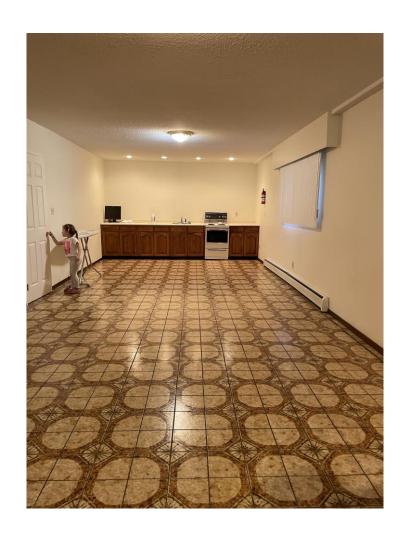


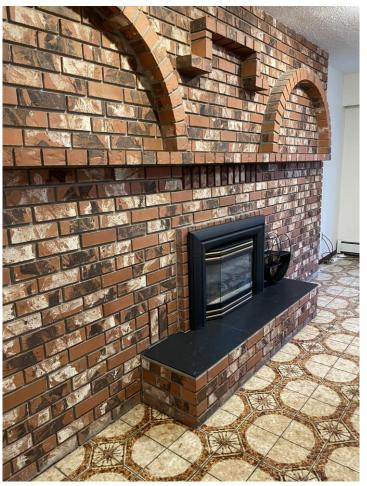






















## **Operation Welcome Home**

- A partnership among private developers, Rennie marketing & non-profit agency
- Housing pending for demolition for redevelopment (3,000-4,000 homes per year)
- Contributions by developers
- Role of non-profit agency

# Program benefits

- Ongoing use of viable housing for social propose
- Diverting housing demand away from local supply
- Evidence of a broader program (scalability)
- Cost efficiencies
- Improved settlement outcomes
- Clients build credit history and gain a reference

## Project outcomes

- Provide a residence for the Ukrainian arrivals
- Reduce time in hotel stay
- Cost savings from expenditure of hotel & food
- More efficient approach to settlement
- More effective approach in integration
- Community contributions
- Positive partnership between private & non-profits

# Challenges

- Legislations (Land Use Policy & Residential Tenancy Act)
- Risks to developer
- Risks to non-profit agency
- Matching with the right family sizes
- Furniture and amenities
- Property maintenance
- Limited time of residence avg 12-24 months

## **Opportunities**

- Readily moving out from the hotels
- Better environment for settlement services
- Needs more housing down the pipeline
- Needs dedicated staff to do the matching of families & homes along with I&O for clients
- Needs resources donations, furniture and basic amenities

#### Lessons learnt

- Building capacity
- Response plan to crisis
- Inform arrivals about regional housing issues
- Government support for innovations
- Sustainability
- Replication to future temporary arrivals and other vulnerable client groups
- Policy development and evaluation for future humanitarian crises





https://globalnews.ca/video/9308607/vacantvancouver-homes-house-ukrainian-refugees/ Thank you

Q & A