



## MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

MONTH: April

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**AGENCY NAME:** New Canadians Centre Peterborough  
**PREPARED BY:** Yvonne Lai, Director of Community Development  
**DATE:** 17 May 2018

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### I. Updates from the Director of Community Development

Apr 3: Data-gathering for Multicultural Childcare Feasibility Study  
Apr 3: Launch of SPARK Photography Exhibit for #ptbo150  
Apr 9: International Student Support & Retention Working Group meeting at Fleming College  
Apr 10: LIP NSC Nominations Call  
Apr 10: Jun 1 Reconciliation event committee meeting  
Apr 11: Phone meetings with Louise Green (Indigo Green), Mallory Graham (PKED) and Sewing Advisory Group re: economic integration training  
Apr 12: LEPC Central Planning Table meeting  
Apr 16: Launch of SPARK Newcomer Youth Photography Project exhibit  
Apr 18: Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce Community Capacity Meeting  
Apr 18: Trent Centre for Community Research Board of Directors meeting  
Apr 25: Conflict resolution training  
Apr 30: PIP Coordinating Committee Meeting  
Apr 30: KAIROS Blanket exercise with Peterborough Victoria Northumberland Clarington Catholic District School Board (experiential learning)

### II. PIP Coordinating Committee Meetings

#### PIP Coordinating Committee Meeting

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 2:30 pm at the New Canadians Centre

#### Attending:

From the NCC: Reem Ali, Yvonne Lai, and Hajni Hos.  
PIP Committee Members: Dawn Berry Merriam, John Hucks, Elizabeth Rahman, and Carmela Valles.

**Regrets:** Brenda Dales, Charmaine Magumbe, Janet Hunter, Julia Wood, Amanda Gray, and Ken Hetherington

**Minutes:**

**1. Approval of meeting agenda – Yes.**

**2. Approval of meeting minutes from March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – Yes.**

**3. Updates from the Executive Director.**

- From the national LIP meeting: it is important to remember that the LIPs attending the meeting were at different stages in establishing their partnerships and strategic plans, and were therefore each seeking different information. For example, many of the newly established LIPS were looking for feedback on starting up; which makes it hard for IRCC to cater to every LIP's needs during such a meeting.
- IRCC mentioned its interest in creating an outcomes measurement model. In light of the different stages that the LIPS are at, the question raised was how this model would be assigned across the different stages of LIPS. A suggestion was that some of the outcomes would be mandatory for all LIPS, while others would be proposed by each individual LIP, which will produce evaluation models that would have a mix of measurements. For PIP, it is considered unique because it is hosted by a settlement agency. LIPS that are hosted by a City are different and their projects can be very different from PIP's (where PIP's focus should be on partnerships). What makes the comparison of projects harder is that 20% of LIPs only have half a staff member, while others have more.
- OCASI is developing a national community of practice for sharing initiatives (somewhat like Basecamp, which is a bulletin for posting across LIPs).
- The next LIP call for proposals is 2019. Our current contract has already been renewed. Unofficially, RAP will also continue being funded for another year.

**4. Updates from the Director of Community Development.**

- The Workforce Development Board (WDB) / Local Employment Planning Council (LEPC) engaged Laridae to investigate newcomer employment integration in the region, and their report is now complete (English and French versions of the report will be circulated by email). WDB will also do a presentation at our next meeting. Some recommendations revolve around funding for PIP's Workplace Integration Program (WIP), or similarly matching newcomers with employers.

Carmela: for employers who were asked if they had worked with newcomers before, their answer was that there were no newcomer applicants.

- International Student Retention Group: the last meeting held revealed big issues around housing and employment. An example of the seriousness of the housing issue is that some students are commuting back and forth from Brampton for their classes – more affordable and readily available for them than anything in Peterborough. In terms of employment, one of the issues is the “flood” of applications to one employer once this employer has hired an international students. It turns the employer off, especially since the quality of the application is poor, indicating that some of these students require support with their CVs. We need to get service groups involved – waiting to approach the City once we find out who will be responsible for the immigration portfolio.
- May 7<sup>th</sup> is the meeting for the community of practice for training in equity diversity and inclusion, from 12-2 pm. Location is TBD. The goal is to see how our reformulated Newcomer Integration Toolkit (NIT) can go into that.



- We are continuing to work on economic integration projects through the NSP program – details are still to be ironed out. Funding for this came through CIC, and is directed towards sewing and food training. For the food stream, we will be splitting it up into entry-level training for youth, further training for Newcomer Kitchen Peterborough (as a continuum to their ongoing sessions), and training for food entrepreneurs who need support to start their own businesses. Participants who experience barriers, such as language or child care can still get the support they need as long as they are eligible. For the sewing stream, we are still revamping the model, but will include different levels of training as well with a potential entrepreneurs training, similar to the food stream.
- The New Canadians Centre has received 2 awards: At the 15th Annual Abraham Festival, the NCC received the Hospitality Award which is presented to groups or individuals demonstrating the hospitality of the prophet Abraham (who kept his tent open on all four sides and welcomed all travelers to share a meal with him). Thank you to the Abraham Festival for this honor. On April 18, the NCC was also recognized with an award in the Cultural Assets category at the 3rd Annual Sustainable Peterborough Partnership Recognition Event and Awards. These awards aim to recognize sustainable achievements of organizations in the Peterborough region. Thanks to Dawn Berry-Merriam for nominating us.
- Official Plan: the letter to the City will be circulated by email in order to add any comments or additions before resending it. The aim is to build on our comments from the last time and assist the City in moving the plan forward.

## 5. Updates on Community Development Activities:

- Ongoing/completed tasks and activities:
  - ✓ ESL Forum:
    - As requested, TVLA has delivered a binder with activities for CLB level 2 ESL learners to be used as a template to establish binders for other CLB levels. The idea is to develop some structure for the NCC's ESL tutors in terms of the tutoring material that is being used, and to assist them in setting goals with their learners. Members from the ESL Forum will be recruited to help put together the other CLB level binders.
  - ✓ Sewing Collective:
    - A meeting was held with new members of the Advisory Group to receive feedback on the Sewing Collective's current items and sales, and brainstorm some new ideas for the group moving forward. Future workshops were discussed, which can include topics such as: knitting; screen-printing; beading, embroidery work, and alterations.
  - ✓ Newcomers Kitchen:
    - The numeracy workshop series is now complete. With the help of Janet Hunter as the instructor, the women are now better able to understand the difference between imperial and metric measures of weight and volume; use their measuring cups and spoons more knowledgeably; know how to multiply fractions and increase their recipe sizes; and begin to plan purchasing ingredients according to serving size.
    - Next step: food handlers review with Peterborough Public Health.

**Next PIP Coordinating Committee Meeting: Tuesday May 29, 2018 at 2:30pm at the New Canadians Centre.**

**For 2018, PIP Coordinating Committee Meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every**



month from 2:30-3:30 pm at the New Canadians Centre.

### III. Members of the Partnership

- As of April 16, 2018, the Partnership has 84 organizational members and a total of 185 organizational and individual representatives.

### IV. Outreach and Other Activities (Community Development Worker)

Apr 3rd - Met with Joelle Favreau for a brainstorming session re: new potential collaboration with the Nourish Project.

Apr 3rd - Attended the 4th session of the numeracy training series, presented by Janet Hunter for Newcomer Kitchen participants at the NCC.

Apr 4th - Check-in meeting with Director of Community Development re: Newcomer Kitchen Project.

Apr 5th - Check-in meeting with Director of Community Development re: Sewing Collective.

Apr 6th - With the Director of Community Development, attended meeting with Zakia Al-Haddad, Sewing Collective instructor, re: new curriculum for Sewing Collective.

Apr 7th - Set-up of Sewing Collective and sales at the Activity Haven's Spring Sale.

Apr 10th - Attend the ESL Forum monthly meeting.

Apr 10th - Attended the 5th and final session of the numeracy training series, presented by Janet Hunter for Newcomer Kitchen participants at the NCC.

Apr 11th - Met with Mallory Graham from PKED re: new entrepreneurship training program.

Apr 11th - Met with Louise Campbell from Indigo Green re: training opportunity for the Sewing Collective participants.

Apr 11th - Met with Leslie Menagh and Emerance Baker re: Sewing Advisory Group.

Apr 13th - With the Director of Community Development, met with Carolyn Doris (Peterborough Public Health) and Joelle Favreau (Nourish Project) re: new food training program.

Apr 13th - Met with Husayn Dharshi from Transit One re; enhancing transit opportunities for newcomers.

Apr 17th - Attended the Community Development team planning session.

Apr 19th - Met with Mallory Graham and Julia Wood from PKED, and Nikki Nelson from The Mount re: new entrepreneurship training program.

Apr 20th - Met with Amanda Harrison re: next steps for Newcomers Kitchen.

Apr 23rd - Attended the Community Development team meeting.

Apr 24th - Met with Amanda Harrison re: planning for new nutrition workshop series for Newcomers Kitchen.

Apr 25th - Met with Lesley Hamilton from TVLA re: CLB binders for ESL tutors.

Apr 26th - Met with Colleen O'Manique (Trent University) and Joelle Favreau (Nourish Project) re: new potential project for youth.

Apr 27th - Check-in meeting with Director of Community Development.

Apr 30th - Attended the monthly PIP Coordinating Committee meeting.