



Interpreter Volunteer Description

Overview of Role

As an (unpaid) volunteer language interpreter you will provide invaluable assistance to newcomers seeking access to services (e.g. dentist, school boards, Service ON, etc.), but are facing a significant language barrier. The New Canadians Centre seeks to maintain a large pool of volunteers with as many languages as possible in order to assist quickly when a request is made. Although you may infrequently be called upon to provide assistance, when you are needed, that assistance is essential.

E.g. If a new family moves to town and has an urgent dentist appointment and they speak Mandarin and intermediate English, they will not require interpretation. If they speak Mandarin and low beginner English, they may need an interpreter.

Availability of Role

Opportunities available throughout the year, but are infrequent and dependent on the demand for interpretation in the language you can offer.

**Languages most often requested: Arabic, Hindi, Farsi and Mandarin.*

Time Commitment

Interpretation sessions are approximately 1-2 hours, however each case is different

Responsibilities

- Attend meetings or appointments when available to interpret the information communicated
- Listen carefully and interpret accurate information without adding opinions or judgment
- Must strictly adhere to confidentiality policies and procedures

Qualifications

- Must be able to speak English and another language well
- Understanding of cultural differences and non-judgmental attitude
- Previous interpreter or translation experience is an asset

Benefits include the opportunity to:

- Build your experience with interpretation
- Help a newcomer feel understood and not alone, in often very confusing processes
- Make new connections in the community

