

Information Session: Local & Federal Response to the War in Ukraine

New Canadians Centre Peterborough

Presenter: Faye Tan, Settlement Services Coordinator

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Moderator: Yvonne Lai, Director of Community Development

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Land Acknowledgement

- We respectfully acknowledge that we are located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations.
- We respectfully acknowledge that the Williams Treaties First Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters in perpetuity and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come.
We are all Treaty people.

Agenda

- What is the Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel (CUAET)
- How you can support Ukrainians abroad
- How you can support Ukrainians locally
- Question & Answer

Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET)

- Is a temporary residence program
- Intended to help those affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine to seek temporary safe harbour in Canada, until it is safe to return to Ukraine.
- Temporary residents may be able to apply for permanent residency through various programs, should they decide to stay in Canada at the end of their temporary stay.
- No current pathway for Ukrainian citizens to arrive as refugees

Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET)

- Gives you a visitor visa to come to Canada temporarily
- The visitor visa
 - is fee-exempt
 - allows you to travel in and out of Canada, as long as your visa is valid
 - is valid for 10 years or until your passport expires
 - will be processed on a priority basis
 - gives you the option to apply for a fee-exempt work permit at the same time

Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET)

- When you arrive at the border in Canada, you'll be given status as either a
 - visitor
 - worker, if you applied for the open work permit
 - student, if you want to study in Canada
- You can stay in Canada for up to 3 years at a time or until your passport expires. When your status in Canada is about to expire, you need to apply to extend your stay.

Who can apply?

You can apply if you're either:

- a Ukrainian national
- a family member of a Ukrainian national (of any nationality)
 - A family member is defined as a
 - spouse or common-law partner
 - dependent child (yours, your spouse's or common-law partner's) or
 - dependent child of a dependent child

NCC can assist with the CUAET Application

The New Canadians Centre staff can work with you, your family members, Ukrainian nationals who are here in Canada to assist with Visitor Visa applications, Open Work Permit, and Study Permit applications under the CUAET.

Private Sponsorship of Refugees

The average processing time for sponsored refugees to come to Canada through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees (PSR) program is 24 months.

As previously mentioned, there is currently no specific Refugee Pathway for Ukrainians. The CUAET is intended to be a temporary stream, not a resettlement program.

If you are still interested in privately sponsoring refugees, you can reach out to us separately and we can explain to you the different types of sponsorship groups you can form or join, the eligibility criteria for refugees, and sponsorship responsibilities.

What does this entail?

Ukrainians will arrive in Canada as Temporary Residents, not as Permanent Residents.

For now, there is no resettlement funding offered by the federal government for Ukrainians arriving through the CUAET program and they will have very limited access to income supports. Upon arrival, they will not qualify for the following benefits:

- Monthly income support (i.e. Ontario Works, ODSP)
- Child Tax Benefits
- OHIP
- OSAP (Post secondary students may be required to pay International student fee)

What then, is available for Ukrainians?

- To work with any employer under the Open Work Permit
- Elementary and High school students can register and attend schools right away without a study permit
- Access to government-funded English Language Training Programs
- Receive settlement services (from agencies such as the NCC)

What Happens Once You Arrive?

- Connect with a settlement agency in your area
- New Canadians Centre
 - nccpeterborough.ca; 705 743 0882; info@nccpeterborough.ca
- Arrange for an appointment with a Settlement Counsellor
 - School registration
 - English language classes
 - Community Connections
 - Canadian identity documents
 - Job search
 - Orientations

How you can support Ukrainians abroad

- Donate to aid organisations including:
 - Canada Ukraine Foundation
 - Red Cross, UNICEF, UNHCR
- Things to consider
 - Donate money over stuff
 - Prioritize organisations with strong ties to Ukraine
 - Be aware of scams
 - Find creative ways to help (e.g., Airbnb)

How you can support Ukrainians locally

- Be kind
- Be part of a welcoming community in Peterborough
- Post on [Jobs for Ukraine](https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/jobs-for-ukraine) through jobbank.gc.ca
- Organise events that bring diverse people together & invite people into your group
- Support organisations and programs that prioritise inclusion and empowerment

Volunteering

Clients will meet with staff to assess their needs

If they would like to have the support of local volunteers, we will match a team with the family

Please fill out the [Volunteer Application Form](#) on the NCC website

Volunteers will only be matched with families based on need

Ongoing need for Support Team volunteers to work with refugees from many countries

Please state if you are open to working with them or only displaced Ukrainians

Housing

- NCC compiling list of community members who are willing to provide temporary accommodation
- Email: info@nccpeterborough.ca
- Staff will meet with clients to assess their need
- Matching based on need
- Conversations between potential hosts and families

Things to consider if you wish to provide temporary accommodation

- How long do you intend to offer free accommodation?
- How many family members can you accommodate?
- Are pets allowed?
- What is included in your offer (parking, heat, hydro, furnishings, laundry, internet, local phone etc.)?
- Can the family use the kitchen and when? How will you manage fridge and freezer space?
- Do you intend to provide room and board or just the accommodation?
- Do you have house rules? How do you intend to share them?
- How will you communicate if the family does not speak a lot of English?
- Will you provide transportation?
- How will you resolve conflict?

Urgent Appeal: NCC Client Emergency Fund

- Supports our most vulnerable clients with basic needs like food, shelter and medical treatments
- Financial relief to meet urgent needs upon arrival
- Launch of campaign to raise \$20,000 for this fund
- Funds raised will support those fleeing Ukraine and other newcomers in times of need.
- Donations can be made online through nccpeterborough.ca/donate-now or by cheque made out to “New Canadians Centre” (tax receipt)

Individual Families

2 families in Peterborough:

Iryna Losytsya & Aleks Goloborodko: lositsa63@gmail.com

Olena Oliinyk: elenaoleinick960@gmail.com

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/northumberland-for-ukraine-families>

Contact: Olena Hankivsky

Question & Answer

Additional Information after the Presentation:

COVID-19 Expanding access to OHIP Coverage and Funding Physician and Hospital Services for Uninsured Patients

<https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/ohip/bulletins/4000/bul4749.aspx>

All services provided in a hospital setting for uninsured patients would be covered, not just those related to COVID-19 issues. Outside of a hospital setting in the community, medically necessary physician services provided by physicians under the three codes outlined in the bulletin do not have to be COVID-19 related. The three codes provided do not cover the services of specialists.

**Please check directly with the Hospital/Clinics prior to receiving services about this Bulletin and if the treatment that the patient is receiving will be covered under these codes, as to avoid any unexpected charges.

Any questions by health care providers or patients can be directed to the [Service Support Contact Centre](#) at 1-800-262-6524.

Taras Pater:

I would be interested in establishing a small food production co-op for Ukrainian refugees here in Peterborough as a means of providing them with employment and a familiar community. Not to mention, exposing the greater Peterborough community to delicious Ukainian food. Should anyone be interested in such an effort, please feel free to reach out. tspater@gmail.com

David Cain. Safe Haven for Refugees Peterborough. We are trying to find a registered charity to partner with. We would do the fundraising and settlement and our partner would issue tax receipts.