



Investing
in People

MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL
OF WINDSOR AND ESSEX COUNTY



Fall 2014

g a z e t t e

Settlement and Integration • Language and Skills Training • Welcoming Community



The Multicultural Council of Windsor & Essex County.

**2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
&
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY**

Tuesday, September 16th, 2014
5:30pm Annual General Meeting
6:00pm Volunteer Appreciation Party

NEW MISSION AND VISION
OPERATING PRINCIPLES
AUDITORS REPORT
SLATE OF DIRECTORS 2014/15

Munawwar Ali
Stephanie Cadden
David Cantagallo
Aruna Koushik
Diana Lulic
Cal Little

2014 CITIZEN WORKSHOP

Citizenship Preparation Workshop 2014

The Multicultural Council congratulates all of the graduates, thanks them for their hard work, and wishes them the best of luck on the Citizenship exam as they go forward to become committed Canadian Citizens.



WELCOME OUR NEW CANADIAN CITIZENS...



Congratulation Ann Hirmiz on passing the Citizenship exam! Ann became an MCC client in January 2011 when she started attending the LINC program. She completed the Citizenship Preparation Workshop at the Multicultural Council. Ann would like to thank Jennifer DeMaeyer, workshop facilitator and the staff of the MCC for their support and kindness in reaching her goal.

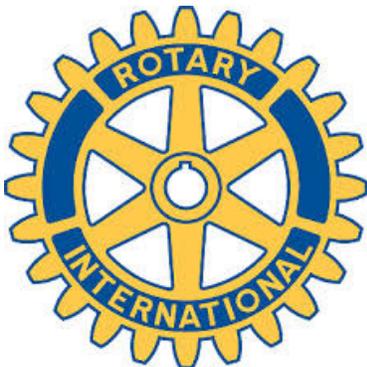
MCC News

ROTARY CLUB OF WINDSOR (1918) DONATE FOR ON-LINE PROGRAM "UPTODATE"

Marcela Diaz, Settlement and Integration Manager and Grace Rosete-Lasala, Nurse Practitioner were recently presented with a cheque from the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) to purchase a subscription to an on-line program called UpToDate®. It's a resource to assist health care workers, such as Grace, who provides primary care to immigrant patients.

Annually, Grace sees up to 600 patients many whose first language is not English. As a patient teaching tool UpToDate® is tailored to a variety of language abilities. The program offers easy-to-understand educational information, with visual graphics. It's an effective way to educate patients about a specific diagnosis, their condition, prescription use, and side effects.

The Multicultural Council's staff and clients are grateful for the Rotary's generous contribution to the health and well-being of newcomers in our community.



DIVERSITY EDUCATION

Cultural Competence Training Since 1993, the MCC has been a leader in our community in delivering Diversity and Cultural Competency Training. Through a comprehensive Public Education Program, funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, MCC aims to assist members of our community to become more culturally competent. Through a variety of workshops and training sessions, participants become aware of the importance and contributions that immigrants make to our community and acquire skills to be able to work effectively across cultures. This initiative continues to assist MCC in fulfilling its mission and vision and also improves Windsor Essex's ability of becoming a more welcoming community. Just in 2014 – over 600 people have received Cultural Competence Training in 36 sessions throughout Windsor-Essex.



Camilla Alves -Training at the "Creating an Inclusive Work Environment" workshop.

MCC News

2014 - 2015 CULTURAL COMPETENCE WORKSHOPS

2014 –2015 Cultural Competence Workshops



All Workshops Are FREE - Register Today!

Cultural Competence - Policy Procedure & Review	Friday, September 19, 2014
Media Messaging: Cultural Competent Advertising	Friday, October 24, 2014
Making The Business Case For Diversity	Friday, November 07, 2014
Health, Healing and Religion	Friday, November 21, 2014
Involving Volunteers from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds	Friday, December 12, 2014
Understanding Cultural Competence	Friday, January 09, 2015
Cross-Cultural Communication	Friday, February 13, 2015
Media Messaging: Cultural Competent Advertising	Friday, February 27, 2015
Health, Healing and Religion	Friday, March 20, 2015*

*Dates subject to change

Contact us for course times, location and further details

Camila Alves at 519-255-1127 ext.203

www.themcc.com

diversity@themcc.com

Funded by/Financé par:



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

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Immigration Canada

MCC News

SERVICE PROVIDER ORGANIZATION INFORMATION FAIR HELD AT MCC EAST

June 12th was the day we held our first semi-annual Service Provider Organization Information Fair. The event involved inviting all local (Windsor only due to student travel limitations to attend county programming) CIC-funded service provider organizations. All invitees gladly accepted and the whole city was represented. All LINC classes participated and there were 114 total attendees. While at the event, students were able to directly find out about what programming would be available in the summer and fall/winter months; ask questions to partner organization staff; get brochures and other outreach information; and register in programs on-the-spot.

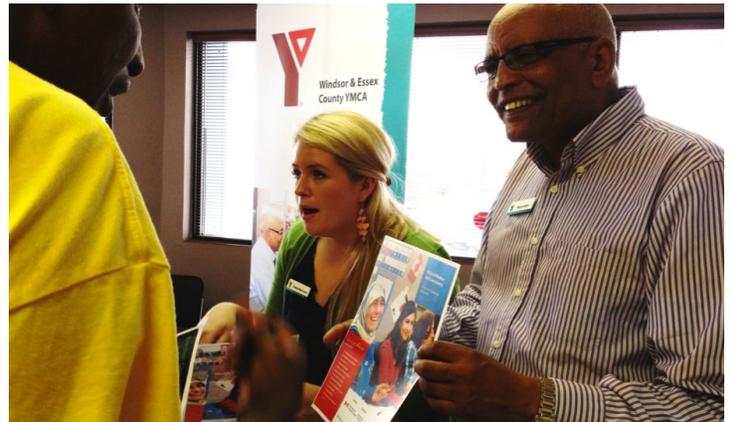
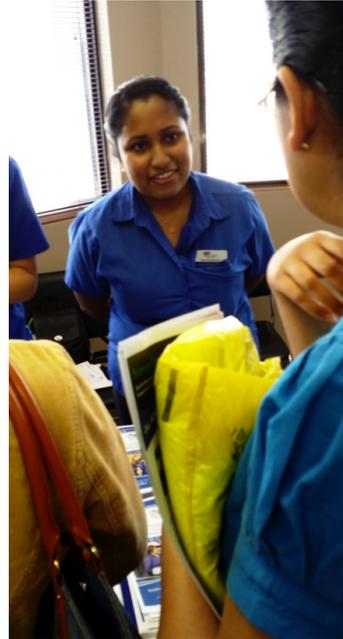
This event allowed for direct marketing to the students, particularly to those who were very interested in finding out further information, and could "shop" the various programs on the spot or take information home to make a researched decision.

We received this feedback from Maxine Deleersnyder, CIC/IT Supervisor for the Unemployed Help Centre:

"I had great feedback from our staff who participated (Ella and Lakhdeep)!! This was an excellent idea which I think will be mimicked by many! Thank you for the invitation."

We were also very happy with the results and have our next session planned for December 2014. We are proud to work together with all of our fellow CIC-funded organizations and develop deep partnerships to the betterment of our clients and our community!

Here are some photos of the event:



A special thank you to all of the participating SPO's who truly made the event a complete experience for our students!

MCC News

INTERPRETATION SERVICES IN HIGH DEMAND

Request for translation and interpretation services is in high demand and keeps the MCC's Language Services staff on their toes. An early morning call often signals an emergency call for an interpreter. However, at 8:40 one bright, sunny morning in June Windsor's City Hall called with an unusual request? Could we translate a birth certificate before 11 a.m.? Translation completed within 24 hours requires payment twice the usual cost. The City's clerk said cost was not an issue and explained why the translation was needed immediately. It was about love!

A couple from Detroit, planning to marry in Windsor, arranged for their wedding at City Hall. Arriving early, to complete the paper work, it was discovered the bride's birth certificate was incorrectly translated. Completed elsewhere, there was a small error to the spelling of the bride's name. The City of Windsor needed a correct translation before issuing their Marriage License. The clock was ticking and the ceremony's appointed time was only two hours away.

MCC staff's response was "we'll try to do our best!" Many of our translators were scheduled that morning to provide interpretation services. After a number of hurried phone calls a translator, who could do the job straight away, was located. The couple rushed from City Hall to the MCC with the original birth certificate to complete a new translation. Within minutes, the birth certificate was scanned and emailed to the translator.

How did the couple's day conclude? Did their wish for a wedding in Windsor happen? A picture is worth a thousand words. The photo below depicts their happy ending!



ESINC OPEN AIR DISPLAY

Our east end LINC classes all participated in the annual ESINC Open Air Display at the Children's Safety Village on June 5th. ESINC, which stands for Emergency Services Introduction for Newcomers to Canada, has been extremely helpful in bridging the gap between newcomers and our emergency services of police, fire and ambulance.

In several cultures, emergency services – particularly police – are not trusted and many newcomers bring this distrust and/or fear to Canada when they arrive. It is the mandate of the ESINC to help break down these barriers, to provide instruction to the newcomers on many facets of safety and emergency to help prepare them in their time of need.

The event was attended by all CIC and MCI-funded language training providers and the students marveled at being able to see emergency equipment, vehicles, and personnel up-close.



Photo by Snapd Windsor

Photo: MCC LINC students and their instructor attend the ESINC Open Air Display at the Children's Safety Village on June 5th, 2014

MCC News

NEW MULTICULTURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

PREVENTING AND FIGHTING ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

NONVIOLENCE EQUALITY WHEEL



VIOLENCE POWER OF CONTROL WHEEL



Neighbours Friends and Families - Immigrant and Refugee Communities Campaign

Woman abuse has become without a doubt, a serious social problem that crosses all socio-demographic factors. The facts about woman abuse are alarming! Current reports in Canada, just to mention a few, report the following facts: (<http://www.canadianwomen.org/facts-about-violence>):

- Half of all women in Canada have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16.
- 67% of all Canadians say they personally know at least one woman who has been sexually or physically assaulted.
- On average, every six days a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner. In 2011, from the 89 police reported spousal homicides, 76 of the victims (over 85%) were women.
- On any given day in Canada, more than 3,300 women (along with their 3,000 children) are forced to sleep in an emergency shelter to escape domestic violence.
- Each year, over 40,000 arrests result from domestic violence—that's about 12% of all violent crime in Canada. Since only 22% of all incidents are reported to the police, the real number is much higher.
- In a 2009 Canadian national survey, women reported 460,000 incidents of sexual assault in just one year.
- Only about 10% of all sexual assaults are reported to police and when it comes to sexual assault, women are frequently not believed, blamed for being assaulted, "or subjected to callous or insensitive treatment, when police fail to take evidence, or when their cases are dropped arbitrarily."
- About 80% of sex trafficking victims in Canada are women and girls.



The Neighbours Friends and Families (NFF), the province wide campaign with the goal to raise awareness about the warning signs of woman abuse, has been running successfully over many years in mainstream without outreaching fully to immigrant, racialized, culturally-diverse or faith-based communities. Late this spring with the funding provided by the Ontario Women Directorate, the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County extended the Campaign within diverse communities and has started delivering the Neighbours, Friends and Families in Immigrant and Refugee Communities (NFF IRC) Campaign.

The goal of the MCC NFF IRC Campaign is to provide culturally competent information and strategies for immigrant and refugee communities to know the warning signs of abuse, to support women who are impacted by abuse and to make the community a safe place for women.

MCC News

NEW MULTICULTURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE CONT...

The woman abuse has been identified as a determinant of health and as such, it is a preventable health risk. It is an issue where everyone in our community should and can play a role in preventing. The MCC has a long and successful track record in multicultural health initiatives and has become involved in the NFF Immigrant and Refugee Communities Campaign with an interest of developing a project suitable to the needs of diverse communities in our area, and with specific focus on reaching out to immigrant and refugee communities in culturally competent ways.

Each community has different experiences with woman abuse, and has its own unique features, risk factors and safety issues to be considered. It is the fact that women and their children face multiple barriers, in relation to their gender, culture, language, geographic location, class, ability, faith/spirituality, and immigration status when dealing with violence and accessing support. As such, implementation of the Neighbours, Friends and Families Campaign must be rooted in the specific needs and assets of each community. In order to promote the NFF IRC Campaign effectively and with cultural competency, the MCC will work collaboratively with community partners and community leaders - peer educators who best understand their community's needs.

The forming of a Committee consisting of local community agencies and various members of ethnic communities and community leaders representing immigrant and refugee communities is underway with the goal to determine together how the Neighbours, Friends & Families Immigrant & Refugee Communities Campaign could work the best within Windsor Essex diverse community.

MCIA'S OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

On Friday, June 27th, Meadowbrook Community in Action (MCIA) held another outdoor movie night event, featuring the family-friendly animated movie, "Despicable Me 2."

There were over 300 people who attended, all of whom enjoyed a fun-filled, family-oriented evening while enjoying chips and water as the sun set.

A sincere thank-you to all that supported this event and all who volunteered their time and energy. And a special thanks to MCIA Residential Committee members who helped organize and to all Meadowbrook residents who attended this successful event. MCIA is funded by United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County.



THE YOUTH SUMMER GROUP

A summer of discovery, outdoor activities, and special summer curriculum designed with the MCC youth in mind.

The Summer Group at the MCC presents Newcomer Youth with entertaining, educational activities, unique experiences and most importantly, a safe and nurturing environment.

The MCC Youth is having fun, trying new activities and making new friends through outdoor activities such as friendly games of Badminton, Volleyball, Soccer, and many field trips. For more information, or to join the Summer Group, please contact:

Sladjana Lazevski at 519-255-1127, ext. 219 or sladjanalazevski@themcc.com



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Become a MCC member today and start enjoying the benefits!

Advocate for a harmonious and equitable Windsor-Essex by becoming an Individual or Organizational Member of the MCC today and reap many benefits!

- Access to Special Events:
 - Discount tickets to the Herb Gray Gala.
 - The Carrousel of Nations by the River: Free passes to one of Windsor and Essex County's most anticipated festivals in Southwestern Ontario; Carrousel of the Nations!
- Publications and Resources: The Gazette Newsletter: Distributed to over 200 organizations and individuals, with a readership of over 2000. This publication provides you with insider access to multicultural news and events. Organizational Members receive 1 FREE ½ pg. color advertisement a year!
- Voting Rights: Exercise your rights at our Annual General Meeting.
- Your Community (or Commitment for Change): Do it because you care about your community. Help us continue to create and sustain an inclusive community and support Diversity Programming in our community.



Organizational Member annual fee: \$60.00
Individual Member annual fee: \$20.00

To become a member please visit www.themcc.com or contact Mira at:
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