



Investing
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MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL
OF WINDSOR AND ESSEX COUNTY



Winter 2015

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Settlement and Integration • Language and Skills Training • Welcoming Community

HERB GRAY

Harmony Awards Gala

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, April 21, 2016

CIOCIARO CLUB



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MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL
OF WINDSOR AND ESSEX COUNTY

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YOUTH PROGRAM

Youth Halloween Event at the MCC

On Thursday, October 29, we hosted our annual Youth Halloween event at the MCC. The purpose of this event is to celebrate and introduce newcomer youth to Halloween, network with other youth, participate in organized group activities and enjoy holiday in a healthy and safe place.



Youth from both the Homework Club and After School Program arrived dressed up in costumes, prepared to enjoy a number of different hands-on activities such as a memory card game, pin the hat on the witch game, face painting, guess how many in a jar game, witch hat ring toss, Halloween art contest, decorate pumpkins, watch spooky family movies, and just network around the table with refreshments.



Canadian Thanksgiving lesson

On Tuesday, October 13, Youth Program participants developed "An attitude of Gratitude" power point presentations about being thankful.

Using images, audio clips, and short movies, youth identified people and things they are mostly grateful for. Some responses included family, home, friends, freedom, being part of the MCC family and being thankful to be living in Canada.



Youth Program is funded by:



Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada

The WISE Program

SENIORS SHARING THE PAST, ENJOYING THE PRESENT



For the past two months the WISE Program brings seniors together every Friday afternoon. A variety of guest facilitators engages the group in different activities. From the antics of a laughter coach, to the creativity of an art instructor and the upcoming drama facilitator, each member of WISE experiences an imaginative, entertaining and social connection.

They say a picture's worth a thousand words....

On Saturday, December 5th a bus excursion to Colasanti's Tropical Gardens is planned and includes a greenhouse tour and a visit to their petting zoo.

There is always something new to discover and we have a lot of fun.

If you're a senior over fifty and interested in joining our group we would be happy to have you. To find out more details please call Rochelle (519) 255-1127 ext 140 or email rporter@themcc.com

WISE stands for the Windsor Initiative for Senior Engagement funded by: Province of Ontario's Seniors Community Grant 2015





Welcome Refugees

The Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County (MCC) is preparing for the arrival of a larger influx of Syrian refugees. Some arrivals are privately sponsored. Others are Government Assisted Refugees (GARs). All faced incredible odds to survive, were forced to flee their homes, and are in desperate need of Canadian's humanitarian assistance.

The MCC plays a vital role to the successful resettlement and integration of refugees in our community. The MCC is one of six agencies across Ontario who provides resettlement services to GARs, and one of 36 agencies across Canada. There is a lot of work ahead for both the newcomers who come to our community and agencies like the MCC, who offer assistance with their settlement and integration.

Programs such as:

THE RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM provides support in the first two to six weeks and includes: temporary accommodation; orientation about life in Canada, connect to essential services and assistance to find permanent homes.

THE CLIENT SUPPORT SERVICES support GAR clients to resolve issues; provides appropriate referrals to other services; and offers practical guidance to cope with everyday living for up to twelve months.

Our

COMMUNITY PARTNERS improve clients' access to services in the community relevant to housing, schooling, employment, English language training, child care, health care, community integration, and much more

There are many ways to contribute to a welcoming and safe environment for refugees. Numerous Wind-sorites are generously giving clothing, bedding, furniture and canned goods. If you also would like to contribute, please contact the City of Windsor's 311 and 211 phone services, who are gathering all the information and coordinating the efforts.

In addition, you can also help through monetary contributions to the MCC that will assist in providing essential supports and services for the refugees, such as:

- Interpretation and translation services
- Transportation support; and
- Positive and welcoming activities

Whether it's \$5 or \$500 your contribution will go a long way to effectively help people seeking protection and looking to build a new life in our community. We kindly welcome donations to assist our efforts towards a more positive settlement experience.

To make a donation go to:
<http://themcc.com/content/welcome-refugees>

For additional information, please visit:

Citizenship and Immigration

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/welcome/index.asp>

Province of Ontario

<http://www.ontario.ca/page/syrian-refugees-how-you-can-help>

City of Windsor

<http://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/socialservices-/Social-Services-Overview/welcoming-refugees/Pages/default.aspx>

Syrian Canadian Council Windsor

refsyria@gmail.com
 Ph. 519-5678SYR
www.scc-windsor.org



NEWS NURSE PRACTITIONER CLINIC



MCC partnered with Windsor Essex Community Health Centre in their new Pickwick Plaza location to run the MCC's Annual Flu Clinic.

On November 10th the Flu Clinic was run by MCC's Nurse Practitioner, Christine Frangione who had WECHC NPs and nurses helping. This partnership helped 127 MCC clients and their families get vaccinated and ready to enter the flu season.

Thank you to the WECHC for their support and commitment in helping keep everyone healthy this flu season.

For those still interested in receiving a flu vaccine, please contact the MCC NP clinic at 519-255-1127

L'ABUS ET LA VIOLENCE PEUVENT PRENDRE DE NOMBREUSES FORMES:

SEXUEL(LE) ► ÉMOTIONNEL(LE) ► VERBAL(E) ► FINANCIER(ÈRE) ► PHYSIQUE

SPIRITUEL(LE) ► ÉLECTRONIQUE ► MARIAGE FORCÉ ► NÉGLIGENCE

PROFITER DES ENFANTS OU ANIMAUX DOMESTIQUES ► HARCÈLEMENT

En comprenant les signes avant-coureurs de l'abus de femmes

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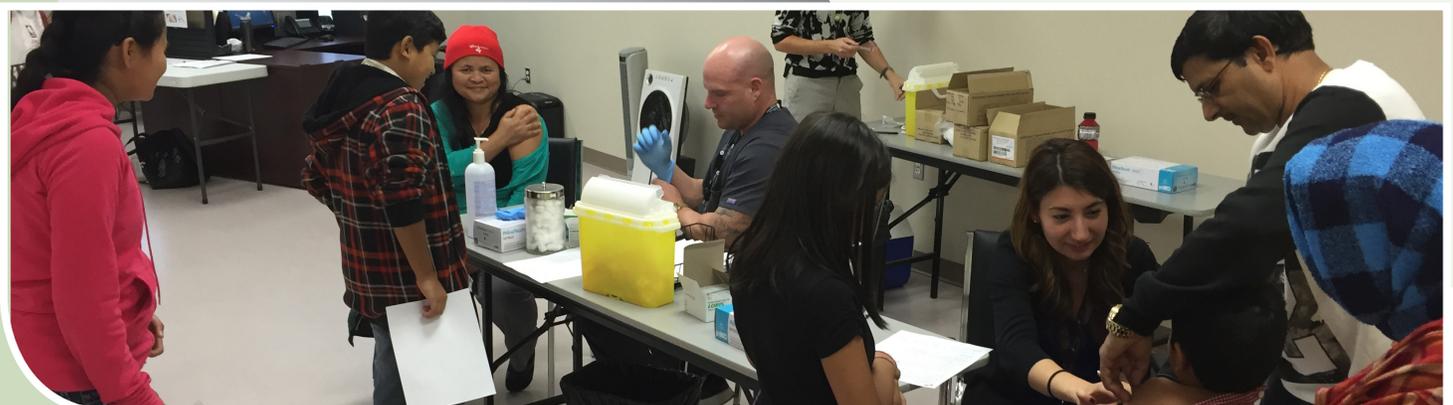
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Michael & Doreen Solcz

AGM & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION event 2015

On September 28, the Multicultural Council celebrated another successful year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by the Volunteer Appreciation evening. David Amyot, President of the Board, opened the AGM with the review of programs and services including achievements of the organization presented in Annual Report 2014/15 and Auditor's report.

After dinner, the second part of the evening was dedicated to Volunteer and Sponsors recognition. In light of celebrating Carrousel of Nations 40th Anniversary, the evening was an opportunity to thank the Caribbean, Chinese, German, Greek, Hungarian, Polish and Serbian Village-Grachanica that have been involved in Carrousel of the Nations for 40 consecutive years. In addition, this evening was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge past and present Carrousel Chairs & Co-Chairs.



AGM/Volunteer Appreciation Event was held at the All Saints' Anglican Church



Past and present Carrousel Chairs/Co Chairs. From left: David Amyot, Anna Jurak, Irene Timko, Usha Jacob, Anne Their, Susanne Stark, Barb Bjarneson, Cameron Payne, Aruna Koushik, Pat Brough, Patricia Reid Crichton, Kathleen Thomas



Dr. Tom Papadopoulos (middle) accept award for Greek Village 1st place at Carrousel around the City 2015

Another exciting part of the evening was the announcement of the Carrousel around the City Winners for 2015:

- 1st Place: Greek Village
- 2nd Place: Carribean Village
- 3rd Place: German Village

The Multicultural Council is sincerely grateful to the diverse group of volunteers, Board and staff who dedicated thousands of hours in accomplishing the MCC's mission.

This evening was a chance to honor each and every one of them. "We cannot promote programs, training, community events, awareness campaigns and services we provide without the time and resources that are contributed by volunteers and sponsors. Thank you for letting the Multicultural Council continue to provide services to this community – said Kathleen Thomas, Executive Director of the MCC in closing words at the evening.

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AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



The After School Program (ASP) is a new program led by the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County, a proud founded partner of the United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County.

The After School Program officially began on September 8, 2015. The ASP includes a homework club with daily academic support, enrichment

and recreation component with planned physical activities, and daily nutrition component. Lively conversations and friendly laughter accompany the youth as they diligently complete their assignments. After completion of homework, youth are involved in structured activities that include English literacy, Numeracy, Science, Arts and Crafts, and Computer literacy.

The After School Program is open to children and youth in our community, ages 7 to 12. It is delivered at our East End location Monday to Thursday from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm and on Friday from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Please contact Sladjana Lazevski, Youth Program Coordinator, at 519-255-1127, ext 219 or sladjanalazevski@themcc.com for more information.

PROUD FUNDED PARTNER OF



iVision Music Presents
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A Holiday Variety Show & Multicultural Celebration!
Sat. Dec. 12, 2015
7:30 pm
Olde Walkerville Theatre
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Tickets
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KIDS age 7 & under: FREE!
 Available @
 Multicultural Council of Windsor & Essex Co.
 245 Janette Ave. 519-255-1127
 Olde Walkerville Theatre
 1564 Wyandotte E. 519-253-2929

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 Cool Yule Band & Members of Soul Delegation
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CHILDCARE CORNER

CHILD CARE for NEWCOMERS PROGRAM offers a wonderful environment, fun and creative activities, social interaction and opportunities for different experience to all newcomer children registered in our program.

Many children are extremely vulnerable because of the stress they often experienced while adapting to a



new language and culture. Our knowledgeable ECEs are committed to provide them with great care, give them individual affection and attention in order to make them feel welcome in this new environment.

Newcomer children from 6 months to 6 years old whose parents are wattend- ing our languge program can be registered in CNC Program, which runs Monday through Thursday from 9 am-3 pm. In September the **INFANT ROOM** welcomed new babies and out-grown infants moved up to toddlers room. The babies loves crawling, moving around, exploring the world through all five senses, and playing together.

All babies need human contact and our ECEs make sure to cuddle, hold, and engage with them in one-on-one conversations constantly during their time together. We understand that your baby is your most cherished gift and we treat him/her as such.

In **TODDLER ROOM**, each group of children has a daily schedule, which provides the children with the comfort of knowing what comes next. While predictability is the key, we still allow room for flexibility when needed.



Dear parents, **SPEAK WITH OUR ECE STAFF** about your children's needs, interests and progress. Communication with parents is our constant goal and we want to develop partnership with you.

Not only will you have the opportunity to speak with the educator in the morning and afternoon, you will also receive phone calls, newsletters and daily information. We want to get more family input/feedback into our program to meet not only the needs of the children but also the needs of their families.

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN learn best through play. Our ECEs try to keep the activities as fun as possible for them because we want your children to enjoy their time here while they learn the letters and numbers and other concepts much easier. We spread activities throughout the day to prevent the children frwvom becoming bored and alternate active and calm activities. Art activities are open ended to encourage creativity. Letters and numbers are taught through play by activities such as counting the number of blocks the child is using to make a tower or by writing the letters in their names at the easel or on the craft papers.

These are a few of the reasons why ECE staff develop their own Curriculum and focus on things that the children are interested in.

PARENTS, the educators want to join with you in caring for your child in the best way possible. You, can help educators by telling them how you care for your child at home and how you expect your child to behave. Educators can tell you about their expectations of children in their care and about their methods used for helping children grow and learn.



Congratulations

ELEANOR FINN



On October 26, 2015 Eleanor Finn, was honoured by the Windsor Symphony Society with the title of honorary life member for her 36 years of voluntary service. Eleanor has been a long standing member of the Windsor Symphony Orchestra Guild and has chaired the huge fashion show “A Symphony of Fashion” held at the Ciociaro Club every March since 1982. She also manages and purchases all the items for our Musique Boutique which is set up in the Joy Room at the Capitol Theatre for all the WSO concerts.

“She has undying energy and a gentle personality and amazes most of us in the Guild who have difficulty, even though most of us are younger, keeping up with her”- said Patricia Harnadek, President of Windsor Symphony Guild. She is the first woman to be honoured by the Windsor Symphony Society followed only by four men.

Congratulations Eleanor! We are very proud of your accomplishments.

MY VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

I was a volunteer at the MCC from February 2015 to June 2015, during which time I have gained valuable experience in the field of Administration by working at the reception, and helping with the Language Service Department. The MCC is a great organization that really cares about the volunteers, and it tries the best to assist the volunteers in developing the skills they want to develop, by placing them in the positions that they are interested in.

My experience at the MCC has helped me prepare and attain two new positions—Community Outreach at College Boreal, and After School Program Leader at YMCA. Volunteering at the MCC has given me an insider’s perspective on how NGO works, and it has boosted my career pursue in the field of Social Service. The MCC has taught me how to serve people without anticipation of rewards, and how to cherish the resources we have, and use them efficiently. All the core values I learnt from the MCC, will accompany me for sure, for the rest of my career life.

Wenzhu Sun



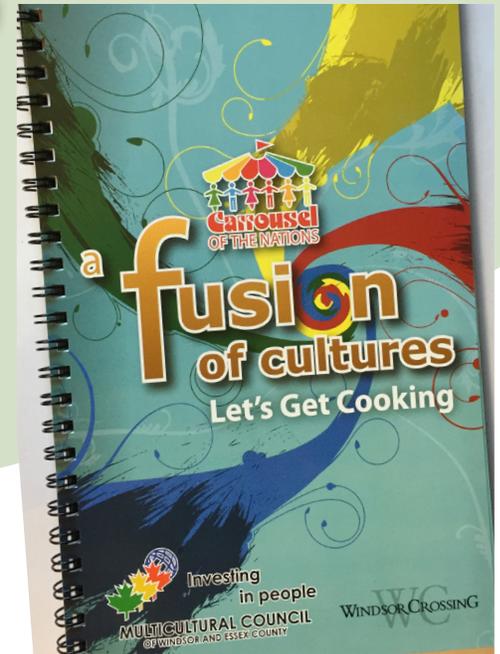
Congratulations

to the Kafley and Pokharel Family

The MCC Board and Staff would like to congratulate the Kafley and Pokharel Family for becoming Canadian Citizens. Both families arrived to Canada in December of 2011. Since then they have been clients of the MCC under several programs and were very dedicated to settle and adjust to new life in Canada.



The Kafley Family
From left: Krishna, Chandra, Goma Devi and Nir Maya



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Multicultural Council
519-255-1127**

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THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF
THE MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL



From left: Karin Falconer - Resource Teacher, Woti and Laxmi Pokharel, Carlos Correa, Language and Skills Instructor

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\$20/year

- 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!
- 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.
- Publications and Resources: The Gazette Newsletter: Distributed to over 200 organizations and individuals, with a readership of over 2000. This publication provides you with inside access to multicultural news and events.

To become a member please visit www.themcc.com or contact Mira at: mgordic@themcc.com • 519.255.1127 ext. 220