



Launch of the City of Peterborough's Redesigned Immigration Portal


Council Meeting

Peterborough, 24 July 2017



Quicklinks

- [Mayor's Greeting](#)
- [Why Choose Peterborough](#)
- [Local News and Events](#)
- [Story Gallery](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

 [Create PDF](#)



Helpful Resources

- [City of Peterborough](#)
- [New Canadians Centre Peterborough](#)
- [Settlement.org](#)
- [Peterborough Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Workforce Development Board](#)
- [Peterborough Economic Development](#)
- [Peterborough Downtown Business Improvement Area](#)



[Welcome](#)
[Bienvenue](#)
[ਵਿਜ਼ਾਹਿ ਵੈਲਕਮ](#)
[خوش آمد](#)
[بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ](#)
[Bem-vindo](#)
[Maligayang Pagdating](#)
[مرحبا](#)

[வெல்வா](#)
[Benvenuto](#)
[Bienvenido](#)
[Добро пожаловать](#)
[შეგობრული](#)
[Καλωσορίστε](#)
[സ്വാഗതം](#)

This website has been created for those who are thinking of immigrating to Canada or arrived recently. It contains information to help you decide if you want to live in Peterborough and how to settle here. Peterborough values you as New Canadians and the skills, experience and knowledge you bring. Take time to explore our website and find out more about Peterborough. We welcome you to Peterborough and we hope you will make our community yours!



The Greater Peterborough Area



The Greater Peterborough area is home to approximately 135,000 residents. We offer an exceptional quality of life, an affordable cost of living, and access to first-rate educational institutions. We are one of Canada's most walkable cities. A safe and clean city, Peterborough is a short drive or bus trip from Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, and offers the ideal mix of city and country living. Our close proximity to major markets in Canada and the United States makes Peterborough a great place to start a business.

With so much to be proud of, it is no wonder that people in Peterborough are the [happiest in Ontario](#)! Come and experience it for yourself, choose Peterborough to [be your new home!](#)

Refugee Resettlement Support

Why new Canadians are flocking to Peterborough
City offers high quality-of-life and resources for working professionals



Welcome, Bienvenue

Are you thinking of immigrating to Canada or have recently arrived? This website contains information to help you choose Peterborough as your destination and settle here. Peterborough values newcomers and the skills, experience and knowledge you bring. Take time to explore this website and learn more about Peterborough. Make our community yours!

Local Time 10:17 am
Peterborough, Ontario: 22°
SUNDAY 14°
[@news@net.net](#) [net](#)



Immigrant Services



Job Search



Doing Business



Community Services Map

Learn about the community programs and agencies serving the Peterborough area through this interactive tool.



 **Welcome, Bienvenue**

Are you thinking of immigrating to Canada or have recently arrived? This website contains information to help you choose Peterborough as your destination and settle here. Peterborough values newcomers and the skills, experience and knowledge you bring. Take time to explore this website and learn more about Peterborough. Make our community yours!

Local Time 12:22 am

Peterborough, Ontario
 SUNDAY 22°
 14°
 theweather.net [help](#)



Immigrant Services



Job Search



Doing Business



Read Mohammad Alftih & Randa Kharboutly's Story

When all other countries closed their doors on us, Canada opened theirs.



Welcome, Bienvenue

Are you thinking of immigrating to Canada or have recently arrived? This website contains information to help you choose Peterborough as your destination and settle here. Peterborough values newcomers and the skills, experience and knowledge you bring. Take time to explore this website and learn more about Peterborough. Make our community yours!

Local Time 4:28 pm

Peterborough, Ontario
TUESDAY 21°
13°
theweathernet



Immigrant Services



Job Search



Doing Business





Thinking of moving to Peterborough? Follow us on **Facebook** @welcomeptbo or **Twitter** @welcomeptbo for the latest news and information about migrating to our great city.



Tweets by @WelcomePtbo



Upcoming Events

Peterborough and the surrounding area are host to a variety of interesting events. Check out these websites for complete listings of activities taking place in the area.

- [Kawartha Now](#)
- [New Canadian Centre Events Calendar](#)
- [MyKawartha.com Events](#)
- [Peterborough Examiner Events Calendar](#)
- [PTBO Canada Events Calendar](#)

Helpful Resources

- [City of Peterborough](#)
- [New Canadians Centre Peterborough](#)
- [Peterborough Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Workforce Development Board](#)
- [Peterborough and the Kawarthas Economic Development](#)
- [Peterborough Downtown Business Improvement Area](#)
- [Settlement.org](#)

FAQ

Have Questions? Visit our [FAQ page](#) to see if your questions have already been answered before contacting us.





Select Language

Powered by Google Translate



Why Peterborough

Before Arrival

Settling

Living

Working

Learning

Living

Peterborough is affordable, safe and welcoming. It is a great place to live, work, and raise children. With a university, a community college, and a vibrant downtown, the city is full of energy and life. For an overview of the quality of life in Peterborough, please read this comprehensive [report](#) created by the [Peterborough Social Planning Council](#).



Housing



Transportation



Food and Shopping



Personal Finance

Why I Chose Peterborough



Fadhil Al-Sarraj

I was born in Baghdad, Iraq, to a family of business people. None of our relatives were university graduates. However, my father was different; he wanted to pursue higher education, working during the day and attending school at night. Often, he and I would study and write exams at the same time. He set a wonderful example for me.

He finished his business degree in the same year I started high school. I spent most of my time studying because I wanted to be a pharmacist. I became a licensed pharmacist at 20 years old. Later, I decided to pursue my doctorate in pharmacy in England.

[Read More](#)

Make Our Community Yours

[More Details](#)



- HOME
- NEWS
- VIEWS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- LIFE
- WHEELS.CA
- BUSINESS
- SPORTS
- YOUR HOME
- HOROSCOPES
- GAME
- FEATURES
- SPECIAL FEATURES
- CONTESTS
- FLYERS

Sponsored

Why new Canadians are flocking to Peterborough

City offers high quality-of-life and resources for working professionals

[f](#) [Twitter](#) [G+](#) [reddit this](#)



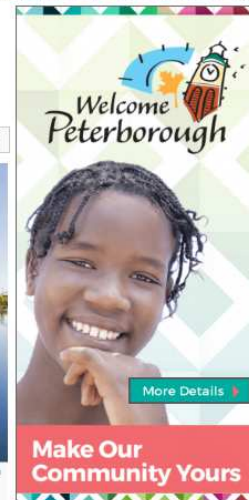
CONTRIBUTED

Peterborough, "the gateway to the Kawarthas," is known for scenic outdoors, but it's also quickly becoming one of the top places for new Canadians to live.

Published on Thu Jun 01 2017


Becky Rogers doesn't hesitate when describing what makes Peterborough, Ont. the ideal place to live: enjoying a high quality of life, a non-existent rush hour (it's "rush minutes," if anything), vibrant food and arts scenes, awe-inspiring parks and easy access to Toronto and Ottawa. At the top of Rogers' list is Peterborough's welcoming atmosphere, which, she says, truly values the skills, experience and knowledge of newcomers.

"When I talk to newcomers who have been here a while, they often tell me the same thing I've experienced when I travel. After being away, they always look forward to coming home," says Rogers, who in her role as manager of the city's arts, culture and



[More Details](#)

Most Popular

 Desperate Liberals change tune on welfare and campaign donations

 Former Halifax-area pastor charged with sexual assault, sexual exploitation, involving teenage girl

Make Our Community Yours

[More Details](#)





Make Our Community Yours

[More Details](#)



In 2016, Peterborough welcomed 826 people from 79 countries, including 300 Syrian refugees. To support its new and diverse community, the city offers diverse resources such as the New Canadians Centre, Peterborough Immigration Partnership's Community Integration Plan and the WelcomePeterborough.ca portal, says Rogers.

The portal launched in 2010 and covers information relevant to entrepreneurs, international students or others who are considering moving to Peterborough or have recently arrived. It is currently undergoing a redesign and will go live in June.

"The updated site will have new interactive features and be mobile friendly," says Rogers. "This is important as many people from other regions of the world rely on their smart phones to access the Internet. We want to ensure everyone has access to the information on WelcomePeterborough.ca."

Thanks to the portal and the area's business community (entities including the local Chambers of Commerce, business network groups and funding organizations), immigrants in Peterborough have thrived. In 2012, the Conference Board of Canada reported that 36 per cent of new Canadians in Peterborough were self-employed — the highest rate of immigrant entrepreneurship in the country.

Rhonda Keenan is president and CEO of Peterborough and the Kawartha Economic Development (PKED). A non-profit corporation, PKED is responsible for delivering economic development and tourism services on behalf of the City and County of Peterborough. She says the statistic is a telling one.

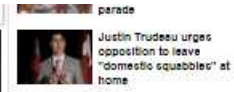
"This is a testament to both the collaborative and welcoming business environment and quality of life in the region," says Keenan. "Professionals from around the world are finding the support and resources that they need to succeed in our community."

A report by the Martin Prosperity Institute, meanwhile, reveals Peterborough is one of Canada's most inventive cities with more than 30 per cent of its labour force employed in creative economy occupations. By 2020, says the report, this number will increase by 23 per cent. Rogers says the shift is part of the transition the city is making away from an industrial focus to a hub of creative enterprises, entrepreneurship, startups and micro-businesses.

With the transition, says Stuart Harrison, president and CEO of the Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, Peterborough continually looks to the global community.

"Businesses in the Peterborough area are hungry for trained employees," he says. "Attracting international talent in a timely manner can be an effective way of filling a job opening. Peterborough has a strong support system in place to make those connections."

And, adds Rogers, international students who attend local institutions, Trent University and Fleming College, are increasingly playing an important role in this.



Make Our Community Yours

[More Details](#)



SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2017

18 °C

MyKawartha.com

- FULL MENU
- KAWARTHA LAKES
- PETERBOROUGH
- BROCK
- OPINION
- HOT TOPICS
- EVENTS

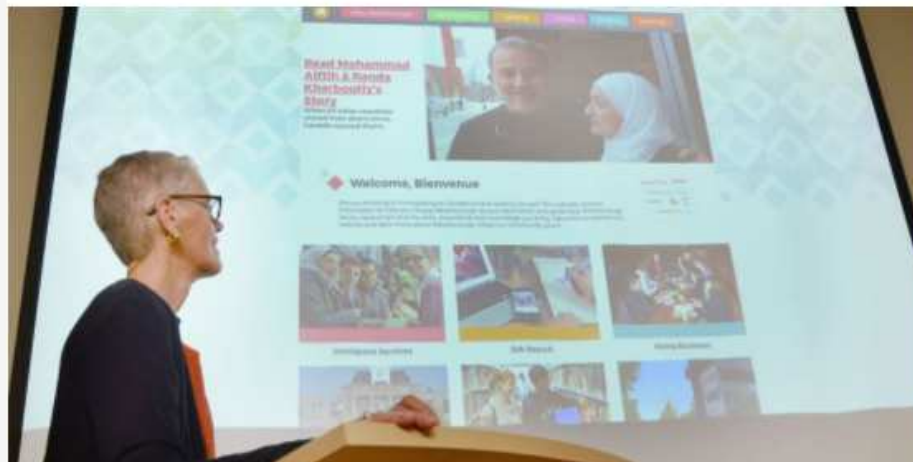
Home / News / City Hall / Businesses Like Newcomers' Kitchen...

Businesses like newcomers' kitchen provide entrepreneur opportunities for immigrants

Immigrant entrepreneurs provide fresh and creative business perspectives, says Becky Rogers

NEWS Jan 21, 2017 by Taylor Clysdale Peterborough This Week

SHARE



Becky Rogers presents the new web portal which walks people through the steps to immigrating to Peterborough and shows off businesses run by immigrants. - Taylor Clysdale/Metroland

Are you thinking of immigrating to
Canada or have you recently arrived?

Epa!




Welcome Peterborough



— Visit —

www.welcomepeterborough.ca



An all-inclusive web resource designed to
welcome newcomers to Peterborough.

Now in a NEW mobile friendly format!


Photo: Peterborough Economic Development

Thanks :
City of Peterborough
Ontario Government
Workforce Development Board

Trent University
Fleming College
New Canadians Centre
Dawn Berry-Merriam

Studio N
Rodney Fuentes

45+ community organisations
and partners (inc two school boards,
Chamber of Commerce, Innovation Cluster,
PKED, PRHC)





Welcome  Peterborough



— Visit —

www.welcomepeterborough.ca



An all-inclusive web resource designed to welcome newcomers to Peterborough.

Now in a NEW mobile friendly format!

Thanks:

Local immigrant owned businesses

∇ Oasis Mediterranean Grill - OMG

∇ Banana Services

∇ Carmela Valles Immigration Consultant

∇ Ribbet App

∇ Faces by Two



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X2IcKiGa1I>