



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

**From:** Karen Rennie, Manager Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

**Meeting Date:** February 11, 2021

**Subject:** Report ACHAC21-002  
Municipal Cultural Plan Strategic Direction #6 Encourage  
Inclusivity and Facilitate Diversity

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## **Purpose**

A report to advise the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) of a presentation by New Canadians Center.

## **Recommendation**

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC21-002, dated February 11, 2021 of the Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage, as follows:

That the presentation from the New Canadians Center be received for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendations.

## Background

The New Canadians Centre Peterborough (NCC) began life in 1979 when a group of community members came together to sponsor refugees fleeing the communist regime in Vietnam. They formed the Peterborough Newcomer Language Orientation Committee (PNLOC) to welcome and provide support to refugees.

As the organization developed, it became clear that the needs of newcomers went beyond the language, orientation, and support services PNLOC was able to provide. The decision was made to become a non-profit organization, and PNLOC began establishing the necessary groundwork. In 1987, the NCC was born.

As a non-profit organization, NCC became eligible for funding established by the federal government in 1974. New funding sources allowed the NCC to offer expanded services and programs such as daycare for children of ESL (English as a Second Language) students until 1991. The NCC realized the vital role employment plays in the successful retention and integration of newcomers in Peterborough and began offering employment assistance to its clients in 1998.

NCC has grown significantly since its early days. Today, the NCC is an established charitable organization funded by municipal, provincial, federal, and private contributions, with more than 25 permanent staff and 350 volunteers serving over 800 new Canadians each year. (Background history from New Canadian Website)

The City of Peterborough provides financial support to the NCC through its annual budget process. NCC staff member and ACHAC member Yvonne Lai will update ACHAC on diversity and inclusion programs and initiatives of the NCC. The presentation will update the City's Municipal Cultural Plan Strategic Direction #6: Encourage Inclusivity and Facilitate Diversity.

Submitted by,

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Manager, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

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Attachment:

Appendix A - Municipal Cultural Plan Strategic Direction #6 Encourage Inclusivity and Facilitate Diversity