

Summary of New Canadians Centre & activities organised in collaboration with community partners towards City of Peterborough Municipal Cultural Plan: Strategic Direction #6 - Encourage Inclusivity and Facilitate Diversity

ACTIONS	POTENTIAL INITIATIVES	PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY	RECOMMENDED AGENCIES	ACTIONS
6.1 Actively support newcomers through collaboration with community partners	6.1.1 Continue membership in, and support of, the Peterborough Immigration Partnership and the New Canadians Centre	City and Community	ACHD, SSD, RD, PLCPC, community agencies and organizations	<p>2009: City supports application by NCC to be lead member for Local Immigration Partnership; PPCII comprised of individuals and organizations who commit to working towards the goals of the Community Immigrant Integration Plan; administrative functions carried out by NCC</p> <p>2015: Name change from PPCII to PIP</p> <p>2016: NCC commits to putting Community Development on the same footing as Settlement Services through strategic planning process; PIP identified as a critical part of our CD work</p> <p>Active cross-sector collaboration across NFP sector to support service delivery</p> <p>Citizenship Ceremonies hosted in partnership with Canadian Canoe Museum, Peterborough Petes and Trent University</p> <p>Annual sponsorship of ReFrame International Film Festival</p> <p>DEI Network: Community of Practice; Cultural competency training</p> <p>Sharing stories of settlement and belonging: SPARK exhibits for newcomer youth, children and adults' work; Living Library Program (public speaking training, podcasts); 2021 Newcomer Children's Book project, Common Threads Collective "Land(ing)" project, newcomer artist residencies for Precarious festival, Storytelling & Community Radio</p> <p>2020: Collaboration with City and CRRC in Anti-Racism grant proposal to support development of City DEI plan</p>
	6.1.2 Continue to support the Immigration Portal	City	ACHD	<p>2019: welcomepeterborough.ca server moved from City to NCC; support applied towards hosting, content updates and promotion (would be enhanced with link to portal shared on City & PKED website)</p>

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				2021: "My Peterborough" video series
	6.1.3 Continue to support the PPCII in immigrant attraction and retention	City	CSD, GPAEDC	<p>City-led participation in GTA-area events to attract newcomers to move to Peterborough</p> <p>2016: Support for NCC's application to IRCC for Peterborough to be designated as a Welcome Centre for Government-Assisted Refugees; establishment of Resettlement Task Force (close to 500 individuals welcomed and similar number of volunteer support team members); support with securing housing for rental</p> <p>2020: Innovation Cluster approved to facilitate Start-Up Visa program to attract entrepreneurs</p> <p>2020: Launch of Newcomer Needs Assessment</p> <p>Implementation of skills development training initiatives to support integration: food skills, sewing skills, computer literacy</p> <p>Ongoing dialogue with post-secondary and school board partners to support newcomer and international students</p> <p>Facilitation of ESL Forum: to increase capacity of ESL instructors and volunteers</p>
	6.1.4 Continue to ensure that the programming and resources of the PPL mirror the cultural needs of the community	City and Community	ACHD	Increase in physical and digital collections of books and resources in various languages; space at PPL is an important part of settlement for newcomers (tutoring, family literacy)
6.2 Celebrate First Nations	6.2.1 Maintain ongoing dialogue with First Nations groups	City	CSD	<p>Celebration of Indigenous history and culture at annual Multicultural Canada Day event; plans underway with Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre to use the platform to share history and culture in more meaningful ways</p> <p>Events at NFC that bring together indigenous and newcomer youth</p>
	6.2.2 Respect First Nations protocols and	City	All city departments	

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	traditions in City processes			
	6.2.3 Provide support and access to City resources for First Nations events and activities through collaboration with Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre	City and Community	CSD, NFC	
6.3 Encourage and actively promote involvement by diverse groups (age, ethnic backgrounds, orientation) in existing cultural and city-wide events	6.3.1 Review programming for major events to ensure that there are no barriers to involvement	City	All city departments	<p>2012: Peterborough Welcome Pass pilot program launched with support from CFGP – free admission to cultural spaces and events for 1 year</p> <p>2020: “Welcome Inside” behind the scenes tours</p> <p>Compilation of Multicultural Organisations of Peterborough directory; organised workshops on how to promote activities for group and on how to apply for community grants to support activities</p>
	6.3.2 Support the active recruitment of board members that represent the diversity of the community	City	All municipal agencies, boards, and committees, CO	<p>2020: Formation of NCCYL Young Leaders Group</p> <p>2021: Pilot cohort of Newcomer Leadership Group to provide support to newcomers who are looking to engage as volunteers and participate in decision-making processes in the Peterborough community and to expand the capacity for community organisations to include and integrate diverse perspectives in their practice.</p>
	6.3.3 Consider how to incorporate activities at major events that	City	All city departments	

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	reflect the diversity of the community			
	6.3.4 Continue to support Multi-Cultural Canada Day	City and Community	CSD, NCC, PPCII, LLMF	Annual celebration attracts over 10,000 attendees 2013 economic impact assessment: total spending of \$ 766,234.00 that can be attributed to the festival Virtual format for 2019 “Ptbo is my Home” and working towards a similar model for 2020
6.4 Increase the capacity for multicultural community gatherings	6.4.1 Complete a feasibility study on the potential need for the creation of a multicultural centre – a dedicated, shared space for multi-cultural groups	City and Community	CSD, NCC, PPCII, other community partners	Facilitation of French and Spanish conversation groups at the NCC: mostly attended by community members. Need for multicultural programming space has been expressed over the years; conversation has tended towards using existing spaces (e.g., YMCA, PACE)
	6.4.2 Provide multi-cultural meeting space in existing City-owned and managed facilities	City	CSD	
6.5 Improve communication and awareness about a user-friendly community calendar that is inclusive of all cultural events	6.5.1 Bring the community calendar onto City servers to improve quality	City	ACHD, PTS	Important work done by Community Race Relations Committee & BLM Nogojiwanong; Black History Month Programming
	6.5.2 Increase awareness and encourage corporate use of the calendar	City and Community	All city departments, cultural groups	

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Note:

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) in order 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 New Canadians Centre Peterborough was born.

There is a broad spectrum of diversity that includes age, socio-economic status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and ability etc.; this summary relates to past and ongoing programming and initiatives to support newcomers arriving in Peterborough with different cultural backgrounds

	New Clients	Source Countries	Languages Spoken
2019-2020	566	78	54
2018-2019	696	103	52
2017-2018	740	82	57
2016-2017	826	79	53
2015-2016	720	95	43
2014-2015	540	85	43
2013-2014	578	84	43
2012-2013	486	90	61

The Peterborough Immigration Partnership (formerly Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration) is a community-based partnership of individuals and organisations (including the New Canadians Centre) which envisions a community where the meaningful economic, social and cultural integration of newcomers ensures a prosperous and inclusive community for all.

The work of the PIP is guided by the [Community Immigrant Integration Plan 2016-2021](#) which articulates the goals that need to be met to achieve meaningful integration in a welcoming community.

