

Refugee Sponsorship Information Session

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Region of Durham, 605 Rossland Road E., Whitby

Resources

Citizenship and Immigration Canada:

The [Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/index.asp) (<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/index.asp>) helps thousands of refugees every year. You or your group can sponsor refugees from abroad who qualify to come to Canada. As a sponsor, you provide financial and emotional support for the refugees for the duration of the sponsorship. This includes help for housing, clothing and food. Most sponsorships last for one year, but some refugees may be eligible for assistance from their sponsors for up to three years.

Catholic Crosscultural Services:

The [Refugee Sponsorship Training Program \(RSTP\)](http://www.rstp.ca/en/) (<http://www.rstp.ca/en/>) is a program designed to support the Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs) of Canada, their Constituent Groups, Groups of Five and Community Sponsors on a national level (excluding Quebec). The objective of the RSTP is to address their information and ongoing training needs as well as the initial information needs of sponsored refugees.

Lifeline Syria

[Lifeline Syria](https://lifelinesyria.ca) (<https://lifelinesyria.ca>) will recruit, train and assist sponsor groups to welcome and support 1,000 Syrian refugees coming to Canada as permanent immigrants to resettle in the GTA over the next two years.

Local Support Services for Newcomers

Durham Immigration Portal

The [Durham Immigration Portal](http://www.durhamimmigration.ca) (www.durhamimmigration.ca) is an online resource of services available to newcomers to Durham Region. It includes information related to living, working, learning, doing business and building community in the region.

World Education Service - Foreign Credential Recognition

The [World Education Service \(WES\)](http://www.wes.org/ca/) (<http://www.wes.org/ca/>) is a non-profit organization that provides research about international education and trends and offers expert credential evaluation services.

Global Experience Ontario - Foreign Credential Recognition for Regulated Professions

[Global Experience Ontario \(GEO\)](http://www.ontarioimmigration.ca/en/geo/) (<http://www.ontarioimmigration.ca/en/geo/>) can help internationally trained and educated individuals find out how to qualify for professional practice in Ontario. This one-stop centre offers a range of services for internationally educated individuals. The GEO centre provides information for people who intend to apply to a regulatory body to obtain licensure to work in their field.

The Centre for Education and Training (TCET) - Language Assessment

[The Centre for Education and Training \(TCET\)](http://www.tcet.com/assessments) (<http://www.tcet.com/assessments>) delivers the only language assessment and referral service in Durham. The certified assessors evaluate English skills to determine English proficiency level.

Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) - Settlement Services

The [Settlement Workers in Schools \(SWIS\)](http://www.cdcd.org/programs/settlementservices/swis/) (<http://www.cdcd.org/programs/settlementservices/swis/>) initiative places settlement workers in elementary and secondary schools in Durham Region. SWIS connects newly arrived families to services and resources in the school and the community in order to promote settlement and foster student achievement. Schools are one of the first services that newcomers connect with in the community.

Welcome Centre Immigrant Services - Settlement Services

[Welcome Centre Immigrant Services](http://www.welcomecentre.ca/durham/) (<http://www.welcomecentre.ca/durham/>) provide a variety of services under one roof designed to guide and support immigrants through the maze of information and resources in Durham Region. Services are provided free of charge.

Additional Supports for Refugees

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

The [Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture](http://ccvt.org/index.html) (CCVT) (<http://ccvt.org/index.html>) is a non-profit organization founded by several Toronto doctors, lawyers and social service professionals. CCVT is a non-profit, registered charitable organization which aids survivors to overcome the lasting effects of torture and war.

Settlement.Org

The [Settlement.Org website](http://www.settlement.org) (<http://www.settlement.org>) provides newcomers with information and resources to settle in Ontario, Canada. The site is managed by the [Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants \(OCASI\)](#) and is funded by [Citizenship and Immigration Canada \(CIC\)](#) and the [Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration](#).

