



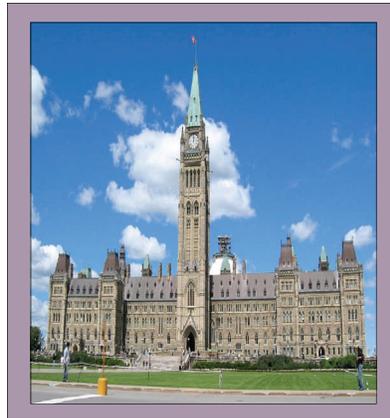
The Citizen

Durham Region's Diversity Focused Newsletter

ISSUE 4
JUNE/JULY 2010

Duty to Democracy

This October brings forth another municipal election. Our government has a key role to play as leaders in our communities; our collective responsibility is to ensure that they do it well. As readers and subscribers to this newsletter, we are champions of diversity and inclusion. Actively participating in the democratic process, and promoting opportunities to share power with people who haven't shared in it in the past, is our collective responsibility.



To successfully effect change in Durham Region, engagement and empowerment need to become part of our daily thinking. A key element is the duty to promote democracy and a better understanding of, and involvement with, the local democratic process.

Municipal elections matter. They give local people a chance to understand the issues, to debate them with politicians and

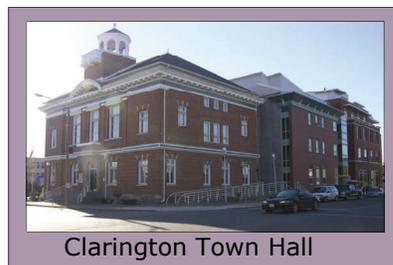
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2010 Municipal Elections

Municipal elections are being held across the province of Ontario on Oct. 25, 2010. In this next election you will be voting for the offices of Mayor, Regional Councillor, Local Councillor and School Board Trustees. The powers and decisions made by members of municipal councils affect the day-to-day lives of everyone in our community. Learn more about the current issues and projects faced by your community. The right to vote is fundamental to our democracy.

A person is entitled to be an elector in municipal elections (unless prohibited by the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, or any other act) if, on voting day, he or she:

1. Is a Canadian citizen
2. Is at least eighteen (18) years old
3. Resides within the municipality, or is the owner or tenant of land within the municipality, or is the spouse of such a person



Clarington Town Hall

For detailed information pertaining to voting in the election in your municipality, please refer to pages 2, 6 and 7 in this issue. If you are interested in seeking public office, contact your local Clerk's office.

My name is Patti Barrie and I am the Clerk in the Municipality of Clarington. The Office of the Clerk oversees the municipal electoral process. I encourage all eligible residents to have their voice heard on Oct. 25, 2010 and participate in the municipal election.

*Patti Barrie
Clerk*

Municipality of Clarington

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Translation links: www.translate.google.com/

Voting – How it works and why your ballot counts

How the municipal voting system operates:

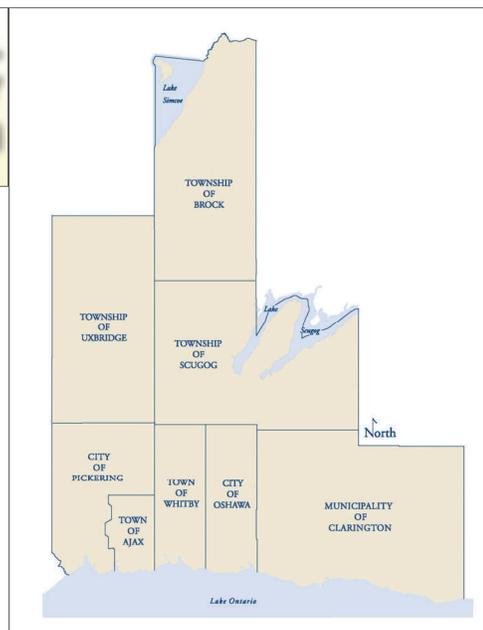
Municipal government consists of two tiers. The Regional Municipality of Durham is the first level, or upper tier, and the eight local area municipalities constitute the second level, or lower tier. The two-tiered system is designed to retain closeness to the people, while permitting a region-wide approach to development, infrastructure and service delivery.



Q: What are the eight local area municipalities?

A: Town of Ajax, Township of Brock, Municipality of Clarington, City of Oshawa, City of Pickering, Township of Scugog, Township of Uxbridge and the Town of Whitby.

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM



The voting process:

In order to place a ballot in the election, you need to be a registered voter. All registered voters are then asked to vote for the local candidate within their municipality, township, city or town whom they deem to be the most qualified.

Q: How do I know if I am an eligible voter?

A: A person is entitled to be an elector at an election held in the one of the eight local area municipalities if, on voting day, he or she is:

- A Canadian citizen (landed immigrants and British subjects are not qualified electors)
- At least 18 years of age
- Residing in the town, city, township or municipality that the election is being held; or an owner or tenant of land in the town, city, township or municipality that the election is being held; or the spouse of such owner or tenant
- Not prohibited from voting under any law

(Continued on page 6)

www.durhamimmigration.ca is launched!



www.durhamimmigration.ca

On March 11, the Region of Durham, in partnership with the interim Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council (LDIPC), launched the Durham Community Immigration Portal—www.durhamimmigration.ca—an integrated web-based resource to attract, welcome and support new immigrants and businesses to the region.

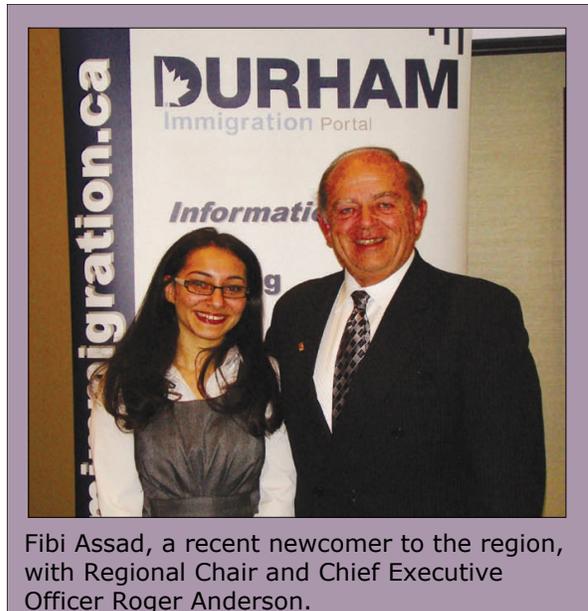


Merle Cole, left, demonstrates how the portal works for an attendee.

The day was a huge success, starting with the attendance—more than 140 people came out to share in the launch. Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer Roger Anderson acted as emcee for the event, and Councillor April Cullen, City of Oshawa and the Co-chair of the Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council, brought greetings on behalf of the interim LDIPC.

The launch featured a personal story from Fibi Assad—a newcomer to the region. Her story of struggle, triumph, hardship, and the strength of overcoming the many challenges she faced as a newcomer, was an inspiration to everyone. Fibi's

story demonstrates the important role that the portal will play in assisting newcomers to the region. The day was a celebration and testament to the hard work and dedication of the over 60 contributors from across the region who contributed their time and expertise to the project.



Fibi Assad, a recent newcomer to the region, with Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer Roger Anderson.

The Durham Community Immigration Portal provides comprehensive and up-to-date information and services for newcomers to the region. It includes a number of features, such as business success stories from recent newcomers, a local job aggregator, upcoming community events, information on how to find a home and links to existing community-based websites for municipalities, to name a few. The portal is a valuable resource that will help accelerate the often difficult settlement process.

The Durham Community Immigration Portal was made possible by funding from the provincial and federal governments, as part of the Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement.

A very special thank you to Audrey Andrews and Hilary Schuldt for their tireless effort to the portal project. Audrey and Hilary went above and beyond to transform a vision into a reality.

To access the portal, please visit: www.durhamimmigration.ca.

Duty to Democracy

(Continued from page 1)

express their views. This process helps all of us understand the trade-offs and constraints that public bodies are operating in.

We all need to "own" what's going on, and get actively involved. This October we are entrusted with the ultimate power. To send a message to potential leaders of our community about what we want to see on the political agenda. It is through engagement of the electorate that our politicians learn whether or not issues of diversity and immigration are on the public's mind.

**"WE ALL
NEED TO
OWN
WHAT'S
GOING
ON."**

Public officials have the opportunity to improve local living conditions by maintaining sound policies. These policies then enable our officials to address local needs, such as housing, infrastructure, education and health, ensuring that no one gets left behind.

Marginalized groups have not historically participated equally in civic life, leaving them on the fringe of the economic and political influence. The issue of exclusion will not be resolved by the social service sector, government or "the system" alone. To manage sustaining change, everyone in the community must get involved, and speak up about what matters to them.

The right to vote is a right those who came before us fought hard for, and a right some residents traversed the globe to acquire. This October let's remember our responsibility to vote and, in doing so, make for a better community!

*Tracy Vaughn
Executive Director
Community Development Council of Durham*

Chief's basketball tournament a slam dunk success

News from Durham Regional Police Service

Engaging youth

Over the course of the last few years, consultations have told us that youth are critical to creating inclusive communities. The Durham Region Police Service (DRPS) has embraced that message. It works hard at connecting youth to the community, each other and the police services. One way DRPS does this is with the Chief's annual three-on-three basketball tournament. This year it was held at Durham College/UOIT on March 26.

Sixty-five students from Pickering, Pine Ridge, J. Clarke Richardson, Ajax, Paul Dwyer and Donevan high schools were on their game in this fun sporting event. Constables Janine Henderson and Brian Stewart helped organize the day.

Events like this don't just bring kids and cops together.

They also give the community an opportunity to think about why DRPS does these events and how they can contribute to creating an inclusive community. DRPS had sponsors that saw how they could help. Sponsors such as: ProAction Cops & Kids, DC/UOIT, Jim's Towing, Sobey's Ajax, Pro Image Pickering, The Whitby Trophy House and Boston Pizza. We thank them!



One of the tournament co-ordinators, Cst. Janine Henderson, poses with the winning team from Pickering High School. From left to right: Kaza Kajami-Keane, Rushaun Johnson, Mikyle McIntosh and Jamal Sebastien.

*Constable Keith Richards
Diversity Co-ordinator
Durham Regional Police Service*

Blueprint to a brighter future: The Integrated Local Labour Market Plan



A multi-year Integrated Local Labour Market Plan for Durham Region has been created, as a result of a year-long study led by the Durham Region Local Training Board.

Based on research of the current labour market and economy, and informed by extensive consultation with leaders representing industry, the education and civic service sectors, government, and workers affected by the recent economic downturn, the integrated plan draws attention to a range of issues and needs in Durham Region. It outlines a series of recommendations and actions based on evidence to strengthen our labour force and competitive position, some of which have already been advanced since its release last September.

Acting now to grow and nurture the next generation labour force is a high priority in Durham Region. The next

generation must be better educated, highly skilled and adaptive, so they can better adjust and prosper during unpredictable, yet inevitable, economic challenges and downturns.

Durham's labour challenges are real. They will impede our future economic growth and prosperity, if we do not find ways to leverage the skills and talents of our citizens who want nothing more than the chance to succeed.

Achieving these goals will require determination, increased collaboration, renewed efforts towards removing barriers to employment, and adoption of new and innovative approaches to labour market planning and development.

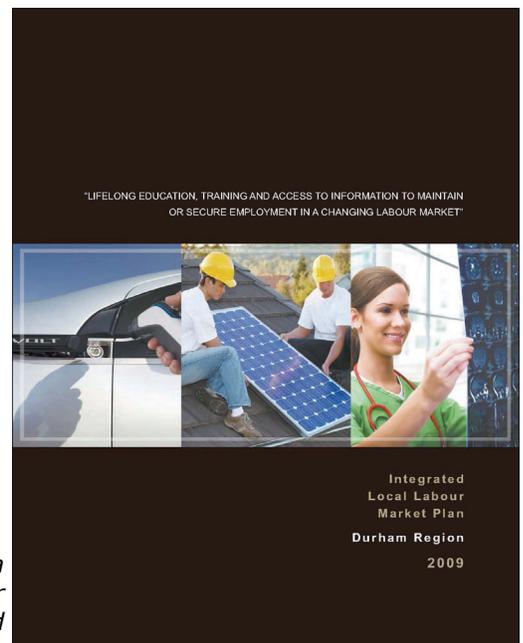
For service providers, planners and industries, this document is a useful tool towards developing an understanding of what the future holds, and where you may see yourself or your organization in it.

Limited print copies of the Integrated Local Labour Market Plan Durham Region 2009 are available on request. The entire report may be viewed online at:

<http://www.drltb.com/includes/viewfile.php?id=157&type=doc>

**"GLOBAL TALENT IS THE NEW OIL AND JUST LIKE OIL, DEMAND FAR OUTSTRIPS SUPPLY."
-HENDRICKS & STRUGGLES, MAPPING GLOBAL TALENT**

Rick Lea
Executive Director
Durham Region Local Training Board



...Continued from page 2

Why your vote counts

What your vote has an impact on:

Your vote in a municipal election has a major impact on many important, local services. The responsibilities are broken into two sectors: regional government and municipal government tasks

Q: What is Regional government responsible for?

- 9-1-1 Management
- Borrowing of money for capital expenditures of upper- and lower-tier municipalities
- Blue box collection
- Child-care centres
- Delegated authority for local municipal official plans and amendments
- Durham Regional Official Plan and implementation
- Economic Development and Tourism
- Emergency management
- Family counselling
- Garbage, food and yard waste collection in Ajax, Brock, Clarington, Pickering, Scugog and Uxbridge
- Industrial, commercial and residential development approvals
- Land ambulance services
- Land division consent applications
- Long-term care and services for seniors
- Municipal water supply and sanitary sewerage systems
- Ontario Works programs and services
- Police services
- Property Tax Policy
- Provincial Offences Court, Prosecution Services and administration and collection of fines
- Public Health programs and services
- Regional roads, bridges and traffic signals
- Regional waste disposal sites and household hazardous waste depots
- Social housing
- Solid waste management, diversion, recycling, composting, processing and disposal, promotion and education of waste reduction
- Strategic land use planning
- Subdivision and condominium approvals
- Transit and specialized transit services
- Water and sewer billing

For additional information on Regional programs and services, please visit: www.durham.ca.



Q: What are the eight local area municipal governments responsible for?

- Animal control
- Building and plumbing inspections
- Business licensing
- Fire protection/prevention
- Garbage, food and yard waste collection (Oshawa and Whitby only)
- Library services
- Local planning and development
- Local streets and sidewalks
- Municipal elections
- Parks and recreation
- Parking and by-law enforcement
- Property standards
- Property tax collection
- Vital statistics

For additional information on these programs and services, please visit the applicable municipal website (please refer to the listing on the next page).

(Continued on page 7)

Why your vote counts

Q: When do I vote?

A: The next municipal election will be held on Oct. 25, 2010.

Q: Where do I vote?

A: If your name is on the voters' list you will receive a voter notification card in the mail in late September/early October. Additional details regarding voting locations will be provided as the year progresses.

Q: Who are the candidates?

A: Candidates are still registering for the 2010 election. To find the most up-to-date candidate list visit your local area municipal website.

Q: How do I register to vote?

A: In early September, you can check your town, city, township or municipality's website to see if your name appears on the official voters list. If your name does not appear on the list, you need to contact your local area municipal clerk's office:

Town of Ajax:	905-683-4550	www.townofajax.com
Township of Brock:	705-432-2355	www.townshipofbrock.ca
Municipality of Clarington:	905-623-3379	www.clarington.net
City of Oshawa:	905-436-3311	www.oshawa.ca
City of Pickering:	905-420-2222	www.cityofpickering.com
Township of Uxbridge:	905-852-9181	www.town.uxbridge.on.ca
Town of Whitby:	905-430-4315	www.town.whitby.on.ca
Township of Scugog:	905-985-7346	www.township.scugog.on.ca



Ajax Lakefront Park



Whitby Public Library



Pickering Recreational Complex

Sample municipal facilities

Durham Community Legal Clinic

The Durham Community Legal Clinic is a non-profit organization funded through Legal Aid Ontario. It provides free legal advice and representation to low income residents of the Region of Durham in areas of law, including:

- Ontario Works
- Ontario Disability Support Program
- Landlord and tenant issues
- Workers' Safety and Insurance Board
- Canada Pension Plan Disability benefits
- Criminal Injuries Compensation Board



The clinic also assists those in need of pardons and provides advice in other areas of law. If it is not an area of law covered at the clinic, referrals will be made to the appropriate place.

The clinic partners with other agencies to share information and resources. **For newcomers arriving in Canada who need legal assistance, contact the clinic. If they cannot assist, they have an extensive referral system to support any requests.**

Located at the Oshawa Centre mall in the City of Oshawa, the clinic is open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in order to assist walk-ins or you can also call and obtain legal advice and referrals over the phone at 905-728-7321 (or toll-free at 1-888-297-2202).

*Cathy Duignan
Durham Community Legal Clinic*

Back issues of "The Citizen"

The Citizen has a wide electronic distribution list. Please feel free to forward it. It is distributed in hard copy in the community upon request. Visit www.durhamimmigration.ca where you will find back issues. Click on the "Creating Community" tab, and then click on "Diversity Newsletter" to access back issues or to sign up for the newsletter.



www.durhamimmigration.ca

Community stakeholders work together to continue to build an inclusive community

The interim Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council (LDIPC) knows the importance of community involvement. On March 24, the Council invited community stakeholders to an interactive, full-day workshop. This workshop allowed participants to hear about the progress on the development of the LDIPC and to hear about the Durham Community Immigration Portal, "The Citizen" (the diversity newsletter) and offer feedback on the council's draft, strategic plan.

The day began with two notable speakers. Over 100 attendees were fortunate to hear the

Executive Director of the Catholic Immigration Centre Ottawa, Carl Nicholson and the Executive Director of Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI), Debbie Douglas share their wisdom and experiences. Both speakers talked about immigration issues in Canada and Ontario, as well as the changes they have seen in their personal work within the immigration sector.

Following the key addresses, the community stakeholders provided feedback on the draft strategic plan. In between the scheduled events, individuals had an opportunity to network. The benefit of having such a

diverse group of community leaders and decision-makers together under one roof is the conversation that happens between the stakeholders. All share a common goal: ensuring an inclusive Durham Region.

After extensive consultations, focus groups, surveys and working groups, a comprehensive diversity and immigration plan is being developed. It is expected to be completed by the fall of 2010.

*Chloe McPherson
Communications Co-ordinator
Regional Municipality of Durham*



A special thank you to Rick Lea, Durham Local Training Board; Audrey Andrews, Durham Region, Social Services Department; Tracey Vaughan, Community Development Council Durham; and Merle Cole, community representative.



Carl Nicholson,
Executive Director of
the Catholic
Immigration Centre
Ottawa.



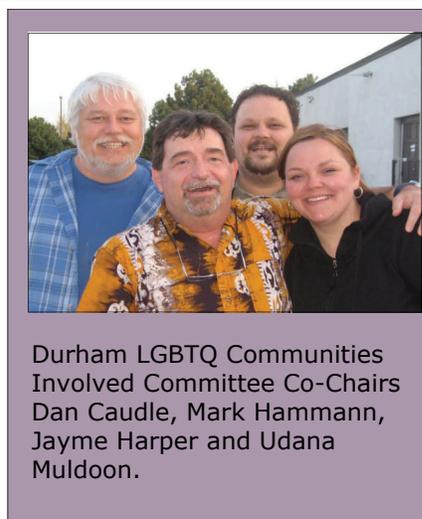
Debbie Douglas, Executive
Director of Ontario Council of
Agencies Serving Immigrants
(OCASI).

UPCOMING EVENTS

What is LGBTTTQQ2SA??

There are many different sexual orientations and gender identities that fall into the LGBTTTQQ2SA community - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning, 2 Spirited, Allies. This community is often referred to as the Rainbow Community. That is a lot easier to say.

We are a vibrant and active part of Durham Region and hold many events throughout the year. Our largest event is our Pride Celebration. This event is held to acknowledge our work and accomplishments in combating violence, homophobia and transphobia, and to come together as a community. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend with their families for fun, entertainment, games and community booths.



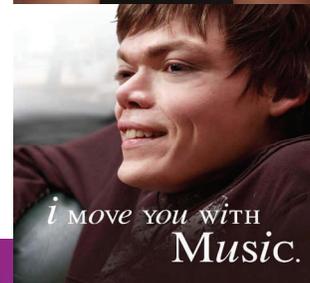
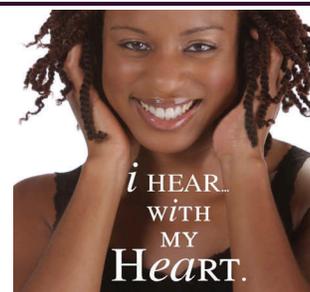
Durham LGBTQ Communities Involved Committee Co-Chairs Dan Caudle, Mark Hammann, Jayme Harper and Udana Muldoon.

Durham Pride Event Info:
When: Saturday June 12, 2010
Time: Noon to 5 p.m.
Where: Heydenshore Park, Whitby
For more info, please visit the Facebook page— 'PRIDEDURHAM 2010'.

Durham Region Accessibility Expo

DURHAM REGION
Accessibility Expo
JUNE 17, 2010
 Durham College / UOIT Campus
 Recreation and Wellness Centre
 2000 Simcoe Street North, Oshawa, ON
 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
FREE ADMISSION
www.durham.ca

- 10:30 am Opening Remarks, Regional Chair, Roger Anderson
- 10:45 am Presentation by Robert Pio Hajjar, Founder of Ideal-Way
- 11:30 am Presentation by Paul Rosen, Paralympic Gold Medalist & Sledge Hockey Goalie
- 1:00 pm Dr. Mark Nagler, Disability Expert and Motivational Speaker
- 3:00 pm Accessibility Legislation, Accessibility Experts
- 6:00 pm Justin Hines Performance
- ALL DAY Accessibility Marketplace



- Featuring an exciting line-up of extraordinary speakers and performers including
- Robert Pio Hajjar, a charismatic, motivational speaker, who travels widely as living proof of what is possible when you include and encourage people with intellectual disabilities.
 - Witness the ambition and perseverance of Dr. Mark Nagler as he speaks with humour that is sure to motivate.
 - Speaking from experience, Paul Rosen, Paralympic Gold Medalist, joins us to inspire through his story of courage.
 - Special performance and speaking engagement by Justin Hines... his words and music will move you.

Learn about the recent law in Ontario called
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

The Accessibility Expo is the first of its kind in Durham where the Regional and local municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees have partnered with the Region of Durham Economic Development & Tourism Department to bring our community an important event on new legislation, accessibility and abilities.

Be PART OF THIS COMMUNITY COLLABORATION.

Some facts about Durham Region

Knowing who your customers, clients and residents are is important. Businesses, institutions and service providers utilize demographic information to inform planning.

Did you know...

- According to the Ontario Ministry of Finance, the population of the Region of Durham will reach 624,250 this year.
- The majority of the growth of Durham's immigrant population occurred in the municipalities of Ajax and Whitby.
- The population of Durham is projected to increase at an annual rate of 2 per cent in the period between 2008 and 2036 to a total population of 1,028,780.
- A conservative estimate predicts that the immigrant population in Durham will increase at an annual rate of 3 per cent in the period between 2008 and 2036.
- 34 per cent of population growth is from the newcomer population.

Source: www.cdcd.org
Fact Sheet

Expression of Interest: Membership opportunity

The Interim Durham Region Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council is a community advisory body whose purpose is to lend direction to the development and execution of a Durham Diversity and Immigration Strategy. Members provide expertise, experience and sector specific knowledge to the council.

The Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council is led by The Regional Municipality of Durham — in partnership with the Durham Region Local Training Board and the Community Development Council of Durham.

The council defines diversity to include: visible minorities, people with disabilities, youth, seniors, all sexual orientations and newcomer populations.

The Council is seeking three representatives and invites applicants from the following sectors:

- Business/Industry community
- Faith/Ethno cultural community
- Community members at large

As a member of the Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council, you will be engaged in developing strategies to facilitate increased access to all services by newcomers, and strategies towards creating cultures of inclusion and collaboration.

This is a volunteer opportunity with a two-year term. Members of the community can forward a letter outlining their interest in the council, their area of expertise and the sector they represent. Please forward the letter (maximum two pages), by June 30, 2010 to:

Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council
c/o Commissioner's Office, Social Services Department
The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East, Level 1, PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3

For more information, call 905-668-7711 ext. 2625 (or toll-free at 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2625) or visit www.durhamimmigration.ca and click on the "About" tab.



Regional Councillor April Cullen and Commissioner of Social Services Dr. Hugh Drouin, co-chairs of the Interim Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council.

In the words of a newcomer—A success story: From settlement to employment



Left to right: Donna, Ingrid Caneo and Enrique Garrido.

(English@Work) that allows me to continue learning English in a comfortable place, personalized class and an excellent teacher that give me the chance to solve the real English problems at work. The EWP has been for me and my employer an important help, because all my English progress have been beneficial to the organization.

(Enhanced Language Training) classes. Ingrid also attended LINC day classes. Ultimately, through his ELT internship, Enrique gained employment in his field as an accountant. So impressed was Enrique's employer, Rob Dinsmore of Lev-Co. Incorporated, that he hired Ingrid too. Wow! What a story! Here are two trained accountants, working in their profession during a challenging recession; however, their commitment to mastering the English language did not stop there.

"I would like to explain through these words all benefits that I have gained studying in the English programs to help newcomers.

I hope that all these English programs continue to evolve in order to pass the barrier of the new language is easier for newcomers." -Ingrid Caneo

I began studying English in LINC and ESL programs and after two years of hard work I acquired the necessary tools to feel more confident to find a job.

In 2008, Ingrid Muñoz Caneo and Enrique Segundo Garrido Carrasco immigrated to Canada from Chile. They arrived in Durham Region with two children and high hopes. A truly inspirational story!

Today, I am working, but in spite of my hard work in the above programs, my English is still not enough to develop a good work in my profession. I need to learn more about the English that the workers use everyday at work.

Both Ingrid and Enrique have attended Durham Continuing Education's English language training programs. Enrique has attended evening ESL, day LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) and ELT

Ultimate professionals, Ingrid and Enrique quickly registered for DCE's newly launched English@Work Program. This unique program assists new immigrants (landed immigrants or permanent residents), currently employed in Durham Region, with their English language skills in the workplace.

Ingrid's own words best described her thoughts regarding DCE's English language programs.

Valerie Mason
Coordinator
Durham Continuing Education

For information on English@Work contact:
Valerie Mason, Coordinator at Durham Continuing Education Tel:289-314-6509
Email: v.mason.ewp@gmail.com
www.dce.ca

Local Diversity and Immigration Partnership Council (Interim)

We look forward to hearing your stories and feedback. If you would like to *subscribe* or *contribute* to the "The Citizen" Newsletter, please contact:

Email: diversitynewsletter@durham.ca | **Portal:** www.durhamimmigration.ca

