

# **Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Network**

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Our Vision**

Newcomers to Canada settling in Prince George will find meaningful work and integrate fully into our community.

### **Purpose**

We will take a unified and coordinated community approach to service delivery, building on existing programs, services and expertise to strengthen and sustain services available to support employers and Newcomers in Prince George.

### **Mandate**

**The Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) network of Prince George service providers and employers will:**

- Develop and implement a Community Plan for Prince George
- Promote partnerships, collaboration and referrals between local service providers
- Strengthen relationships between service providers and employers
- Reduce duplication of services
- Promote employment and entrepreneurship of Newcomers to Canada
- Support employers interested in hiring Newcomers
- Support Newcomers as they settle in Prince George

### **Background**

This Network was developed in May 2015 as a result of a series of community consultations led by IMSS as part of the Local Immigration Partnerships Program (LIPS). A Community Plan was developed by the Advisory Group to address the feedback from the focus groups and surveys. One goal in the plan was the formation of a community network to share information, promote collaboration, and take a coordinated and strategic approach to service delivery in Prince George. The founding members opted not to form an independent society, in the belief that the Network will be stronger by remaining flexible and less formal.

### **Membership**

Membership is open to all community organizations, businesses and individuals. There will be a core membership to support the network and move plans forward. These will be representatives from other related committees and organizations including, but not limited to: local government, economic development, business, education, health care, and cultural, recreational, and spiritual organizations.

**Current LIP members<sup>1</sup> are:**

- Amanda Alexander-YMCA
- El Taylor-BC Cancer Agency
- Ryan Beer-Westwood Church
- Zelda Craig-Vibrant Leadership
- Thompson Ayodele-IMSS
- Lane Logan- KySU Engineering Services
- Laurie Dillman, IMSS
- Joan Haack-IMSS
- Susan Stearns- Community Futures Development Corporation
- Marlies Greulich- Multicultural Heritage Society
- Sandra Sasaki- Northern Health- Children First
- Jody Holmes-Connecting Communities Association
- Rosemary Murray-PG Public Library
- Dorothy Friesen- PG Citizen for Syrian Refugee
- Baljit Sethi- IMSS
- Tennys Scott- School District 57
- Robin Choi- Powerhouse Realty
- Keenan Hopson-City of Prince George
- Jordan Duncan- Wellesley Consulting
- Riffat Shahawaz-IMSS
- Alan Bromley- Pastor/Retiree
- Dee Kelly- College of Esthetics & Nail Technology
- Europa Scuccimarri- Elite Driving Academy
- Stacey Pickering- Volunteer PG
- Rita Wiebe

**Meetings and Roles**

- Meetings will initially be held on a monthly basis, in anticipation that we will move to quarterly meetings once work is underway
- In the interim, the Chair of the meetings will be the LIP Coordinator from IMSS. The Network members would elect Chair and Vice-Chair when the members increased and broad-based.
- The LIP Coordinator will liaise with the Chair to facilitate meetings, ensure that all voices are heard, and manage the time during the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Other members participation confirmation are expected

- Recorder: Takes meeting notes, types them and sends them to the Chair and Coordinator for review and distribution. The Recorder will rotate and a volunteer will be selected at the meeting.
- Coordinator (LIP Coordinator at IMSS, currently Thompson Ayodele) will be responsible for scheduling meetings, booking meeting space, developing and circulating the agenda, circulating minutes and other documents to group members.

### **Contact Information**

For more information regarding the Network, contact:

Thompson Ayodele, IMSS

Thompson Ayodele <[lip@imss.ca](mailto:lip@imss.ca)>

Phone: 250-562-2900

