

Community Achievement Report



A Community Initiative of Individuals and Organizations

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| <p>Funded by:</p>  | <p>Financé par:</p>  | <p>Co-led by:</p>  |
| <p>Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada</p> | <p>Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada</p> | <p>London CANADA</p> |

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I. The London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership: (LMLIP)

The London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership (LMLIP), was established in September 2009 with funding from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). It is supported by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

The London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership mobilizes the community to plan and coordinate enhanced delivery of integration services to **all** immigrants.¹

We are grateful to our volunteers who contributed 4804 hours of their time to implement the priorities identified in the Annual Implementation Plan for 2018-2019.

LMLIP continues to engage our community with all its sectors including immigrants with lived experience to find local solutions for issues that impede the integration of immigrants.

In this reporting year, LMLIP with the support of the Thames Valley District School Board, presented to students in the elementary schools to engage them on welcoming all. LMLIP also engaged the seniors in our community, in the conversation on welcoming immigrants, by presenting for the first time at the Kiwanis Seniors Centre. Also this year, our faith institutions participated in the *All Are Welcome Here* message campaign during the week of December 10, 2018, to celebrate the United Nations' Human Rights Day. The *All Are Welcome Here* message was displayed for the week at six faith institutions.

Our webpage received 3,688 visits with 3,100 unique visits (compared to 3004 last year). As a conduit of information for settlement and non-settlement needs, we shared information on 511 job opportunities and 66 engagement opportunities in this reporting period.

Our social media platforms demonstrated an increase in followers and likes. LMLIP Facebook received 301 likes (an increase by 67); Twitter's followers increased from 966 to 1073; our acts of welcome website received close to 900 acts of welcome.

This report highlights the work accomplished by our community between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019.

¹ For the purposes of the LMLIP, an immigrant is identified as any individual who defines themselves as an immigrant; this includes but is not limited to: Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents, Convention Refugees, Temporary Residents and individuals with no immigration status.

II. Our Community's Strategic Priorities

LMLIP Central Council and the six issue specific Sub-councils continue to be guided by the five overarching priorities as outlined in the current Strategic Plan:



The following projects and events have been coordinated, facilitated, and/or hosted by the LMLIP under the identified overarching themes to raise awareness of services, connect immigrants, support the work of the settlement sector and inform the receiving community of the needs of newcomers. Some highlights from last year:

Welcoming community

- ✓ Raised awareness of immigrants' contributions and successes through the *I am London 2018* social campaign.
- ✓ Reached out to faith institutions to engage in the *All Are Welcome Here* campaign. Six faith groups showcased the *All Are Welcome* sign on their boards for the week of December 10, 2018.
- ✓ Hosted the second Annual *All Are Welcome Here* Event in collaboration with the settlement sector, the City of London, the Culture Office, and the City of London Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Advisory Committee.
- ✓ Presented to four public schools with the Thames Valley District School Board on the 1000 Acts of Welcome to engage students in the conversation of welcoming diverse groups.
- ✓

- ✓ Supported the sixth Annual Journeys of Migration led by the Migration and Ethnic Relations Centre at Western University.
Presented to senior management of the Thames Valley District School Boards on combatting racism in London and area.
- ✓ Partnered with the Community Engaged Learning (CEL) program at Western University to engage students in immigration issues and in drafting the next Strategic Plan for London and area.
- ✓ Reached out to the Indigenous community to participate in the second *All Are Welcome Here* 2019 where a high profile Indigenous individual was one of the keynote speakers and an Indigenous youth participated in the panel discussion.
- ✓ Distributed 200 *All Are Welcome Here* lawn signs throughout the year.

Communication and access to information

- ✓ Presented to a class of Community Engaged Learning students at Western University, to engage them at events organized by LMLIP.
- ✓ Presented to the Kiwanis Senior Centre to inform members about immigrants and immigration and respond to questions related to immigrants.
- ✓ Distributed one issue of LMLIP Newsletters to 200 service providers and individuals. Myth busting on and about immigration is one of the main subject areas of the newsletter.
- ✓ Established a new partnership with Museum London which provided its space as an in-kind donation to host the second *All Are Welcome Here* Event.
- ✓ Shared information on job postings, engagement and recreation opportunities to close to 300 individuals on a weekly basis.

Supports and services for immigrants

- ✓ A work group from the Education Sub-council presented on Enhancing Cross Cultural Awareness to program participants at a Family Centre and a neighbourhood.
- ✓ Engaged 15 immigrants in *I am London 2018* social media campaign. Hosted *Celebrate Community Engagement* to celebrate the faces of London and to connect ready to volunteer immigrants with services.
- ✓ Promoted resources on volunteerism among immigrants.
- ✓ Supported the settlement sector in their effort to provide the third annual professional development to frontline staff.
- ✓ Finalized the drafting of a survey that will measure the functionality of the LMLIP and its impact in the community.
- ✓ Immigrant Community Capacity and Engagement (ICCE) project, which stemmed from the LMLIP Justice & Protection Sub-council's plan, and led by John Howard Society engaged the French speaking immigrants and Ethiopian community. Workshops on the justice system were delivered to these two communities.

Coordination and collaboration

- ✓ Collaborated with one SWIS program, to host a Human Library for grade 7-8 students in the Thames Valley District School Board to provide students with the opportunity to learn from the immigrants about their cultural backgrounds.
- ✓ Coordinated the first faith and settlement event, *Setting Immigrants Up for Success*, to bring together the two sectors and for the faith groups to learn about existing supports for parishioners.
- ✓ Participated in the organization and planning of the 10th Annual *Life as A Refugee* Event.
- ✓ Along with three Local Immigration Partnership in the area, coordinated two IRCC consultation meetings held in London.
- ✓ Coordinated the delivery of an information session on issues related to immigration and immigrants in collaboration with a neighbourhood based group, *Networking and Empowering Communities through Conversations (NECC)*.

Reduction of systemic barriers

- ✓ Bridged knowledge gap about immigrations, by sharing information on LMLIP social platforms on research regarding immigration, its significance and supports.
- ✓ Promoted opportunities for employment internships with the City of London among immigrants.
- ✓ Participated in the IRCC consultation meetings held in London and provided input on needs and capacities.
- ✓ Hosted a meeting with system partners, which included the school boards, hospitals, police, child protection services, the fire department to identify barriers and opportunities to support immigrants.
- ✓ Provided opportunity to educate the public on discrimination in all its forms and how it impedes the successful integration of immigrants in our society.
- ✓ Participated on the Advisory Committee of the City of London Newcomer Strategy and provided input regarding integration.

III: Our Ongoing Commitment

LMLIP Central Council and the Sub-councils will draft the first annual implementation plan from the fourth Strategic Plan 2019-2022 and work on their identified projects in the coming year. LMLIP will continue to count on the generous contributions of volunteers, their supportive organizations and service providers as well as interested citizens from the receiving and immigrant communities, to implement the community's identified needs.

LMLIP will continue its message of mobilizing the community and multi-sectors to coordinate their efforts to support the integration process of immigrants.

IV: Conclusion

As we embark on the fourth *LMLIP Strategic Plan 2019-2022*, we are hopeful that our community will continue its engagement on the LMLIP to advance the community's priorities. We will continue to engage residents and service providers in finding ways to create a more welcoming environment where everyone thrives.

We will continue to engage residents in our *All Are Welcome Here* campaigns and reach out to all sectors including the indigenous communities and faith institutions to inform and learn from. A successful community is everyone's success.

V: Acknowledgements

We sincerely acknowledge our funder, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada for their continued financial support.

LMLIP success is attributed to the continued support and contributions of the following:

- ✓ The City of London for its leadership and continued support;
- ✓ Special thanks to the LMLIP Governance Work group and their massive contributions in drafting the fourth Strategic Plan 2019-2022;
- ✓ The members of the LMLIP Central Council and its working groups; Sub-councils and their working groups; and participants who attended, coordinated and promoted LMLIP events (Appendix A and B); and,
- ✓ The generous in-kind contributions of organizations and associations (Appendix C).

We also acknowledge the in-kind support of our host agency, WIL Employment Connections.

Appendix A: LMLIP Council Members

- Abe Oudshoorn
- Afeez Ajibowu
- Afshan Rais
- Alain Kazadi
- Amani Radhaa
- Ana Enriquez-Johnson
- Anaise Muzima
- Ana Rojas
- Ani Malhami
- Arla Longhurst
- Arthur D’Souza
- Asmaa Al-Joudy
- Barbara Milanovic
- Bharati Sethi
- Bill Pigram
- Bory Sreng
- Carlos Saakan
- Carolyn Doyle
- Cathy McLandress
- Cecilia Inguanse
- Christina Lord
- Cindy Howard
- Corinne Walsh
- Craig Harper
- Cynthia Hove
- Denise Taylor-Edwards
- Dharshi Lacey
- Dr. Beth Mitchell
- Dev Sainani
- Dr. Victoria Esses
- Eman Arnout
- Emily Low
- Fairouze Touni
- Fan Liu
- Flora Lan
- Francis J. Hinnah
- Gabrielle Laurin
- Gaston Mabaya
- Gerardo Castro
- Ghadeir Madlol
- Heather Kipp
- Hina Kalyal
- Holy Weaver
- Huda Hussein
- Jacquie Rumiell
- Jan Tomlinson
- Janice Walter
- Jacquie Bannerman
- Jean-Marc Boisvenue
- Jean-Pierre Cantin
- Jennifer Hollis
- Jennifer Sandu
- Jennifer Strong
- Jerome Rutagarama
- Jessica WallisAmy
Wilkinson
- Jill Tansley
- Jo-Ann Hutchison
- Joe Winser
- Jutta Zeller-Beier
- Karen Macari
- Kathy Milczarek
- Lana Winchester-Tucker
- Lisseth D’Andrea
- Lissette Ochoa
- Mahin Ghasemiyani
- Maria D’Souza
- Martin Withenshaw
- Max Gomez
- Melanie Elms
- Michelle Young
- Mohamed Al-Adeimi
- Nabila Sissaoui
- Najia Mahmud
- Nancy McQuillan
- Nazia Bano
- Nelido Forero
- Nimmi Thind
- Noha Elsheikh
- Patricia Mazariegos
- Pauline Andrew
- Phillipa Myers
- Polina Shadman
- Rachel Merrill
- Ramona Lucan
- Rebecca D’Souza
- Rick Jefferson
- Rifat Hussain
- Rita Giroux-Patience
- Robert Collins
- Robin Armistead
- Rose Aquino
- Saad Aldin
- Sahar Atalla
- Sara Middleton
- Sheila Foster
- Speciose Mukakamanzi
- Taghrid Hussain
- Tam Dam
- Theresa Allott
- Tracy Drenth
- Trevor Johnson
- Valerian Marochko
- Wilma de Rond
- Yenny Medina
- Zainab Abdel-Gawad

Appendix B: Other Participants

- Abe Ibrahim
- Adil Kalyal
- Akraam Taach
- Alba Cielo Velasquez
- Alexandra Parra
- Alice Ho
- Alvin Hopkins
- Amsa Yaro
- André Visser
- Andrea Cramm
- Andrea Hibbert
- Andy Ho
- Anna Orischenko
- Anne Read
- Annie Malik
- Arlene Thompson
- Arwa Elshareif
- Ashley Haycock
- Assem Fadel
- Athithyan Umakanthan
- Ayub Lutfee
- Baraa Alkos
- Barb Cxyz
- Basel Yazbek
- Brianna Gutierrez
- Carlos Arturo Calderon Castillo
- Carlos Gutierrez
- Carole Ann Leith
- Cathy Jenniskens
- Chris Blain
- Christine Le Dreff
- Cody Thomas
- Cristian Cruz
- Crystal Gaudet
- Glenn McLeod
- Dalia Elbargisy
- Deana Ruston
- Deb O'Grady
- Debbie Douglas
- Debra Woodhall
- Delmar Tobin
- Delveen Al Naamo
- Diana Samoil
- Dillon Strasser Einish
- Dobijoki Bringi
- Donna Robinson
- Mayor Ed Holder
- Ehsan Ali
- Councillor Elizabeth Peloza
- Elrah Robinson
- Elyas Farooqi
- Emal Ketan
- Emilio Barbero
- Erika Dickie
- Esra Ari
- Esther Banninga
- Eunju Yi
- Eva Jaber
- Fanny Newport
- Fatema Jamaly
- Fatima Attar
- Firas Sefian
- Gary Brown
- Gertie Mai Muise
- Gordon Thane
- Guifang Lan
- Hanadi Akkad
- Harvir Sandhu
- Heather Stover
- Hisham Hussein
- Ian Soares
- Irina Chulkova
- Ivneet Sohi
- Jacqueline Fraser
- James Shelley
- Janet Collins
- Janice Walter
- Jason Jordan
- Jenna Schlorff
- Jennifer Jones
- Jennifer Martino
- Jennifer O'Brien
- Jessica Hill
- Joan Sam
- Joanne Strasser
- Jocelyn Price
- Jodi Lewis
- John Bannerman
- John Stevens
- Jorge Herrera
- Julienne Simard
- Jullies Poirier
- Justin Patton
- Kaila Swain
- Kara McKeown
- Karen Pennesi
- Karima Balkaid
- Katelyn Harris
- Kathryn McCulloch
- Katie Stewart
- Katy Boychuk
- Keefer Wong

- Kim Ryan
- Kinga Koltun
- Kinnda Heyzen
- Lamia Itani
- Lara Vlach
- Laura Mackenzie
- Laura Monteiro
- Laura Vergara
- Laure Eldik
- Lauren McLaughlin
- Leidy Vega
- Leroy Osbourne
- Leshawn Benedict
- Lisa Dale
- Lloy Wylie
- Lourdes Alvarez
- Lourdes Assis
- Luna Pereanez
- Lynette D'Souza
- Maggie Martha Clendenning
- Malia Omale
- Manar Shakir
- Mano Dandrea
- Manon Leduc
- Marcela Nieto
- Margaret Hopkins
- Maria Vasquez
- Maricela Vargas
- Marie Stevens
- Mary Jane McLeod
- Mary Shakir
- Matthew Hendry
- May Ali
- Mayssa El-Sayegh
- Megan Paquette
- Michael Haan
- Michele Manocchi
- Mouna Abbas
- Mudrika Hamou
- Muhammet Heyzen
- Muriel Abbott
- Naheda Hasan
- Nana Kanaan
- Nancy Needham
- Natalie DePaepe
- Nejat Ali
- Nick Steinburg
- Nicole Buteau
- Nour Kachouh
- Oliver Davies
- Olusola Obembe
- Omar Abu sharia
- Onakunle Onabanjo
- Onyekachukwu Asamaka
- Osama Ali Ozkan
- Pat Foto
- Pat Hodgins
- Patty McCarthy
- Paula Vergara
- Pearlette Cassells
- Perera Senoli Reshele
- Qi Xue
- Qingning Chen
- Rachael Gorni
- Rachele Roussel
- Rafe Slewa
- Raghad Ebied
- Rajaa Al-Abed
- Raneem Ibrahim
- Raquel de Oliveira
- Ray John
- Reem Alkos
- Ruben Osorio
- Ryan Craven
- Sacha Bragg
- Salah Kous
- Saleha Khan
- Sahar Al-nuaimi
- Samantha Yang
- Samia Alnahdi
- Sandra Astaiza
- Sandra Ramirez
- Sandra Zarate
- Sarah Abukarsh
- Sarah Whibley
- Sebastien Aka Kouakou
- Sereen Alkhayyat
- Serin Issa
- Shana Kassam
- Shawna Lewkowitz
- Sheila Carson
- Sonali Advani
- Stanislav Rajic
- Stephanie Trudeau
- Stephen Harrott
- Sulaiman Alhalbouni
- Susan Abdula
- Susannah Gergich
- Tammy Denomme
- MP Terence Kernaghan
- Terry Poirier
- Theshani De silva
- Tracey Whiteye
- Victoria Parada
- Vincent Tao
- Walter Rogers
- William Wang
- Yusuf Gaya
- Zahara Sheikh
- Zayd Alkos
- Zelda Brown

Appendix C: Participating Organizations & Associations

- Addiction Services of Thames Valley
- Al Madi Centre
- Baha'is of London
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of London & Area
- Brescia University College
- Canadian Iraqi-Turkmen Cultural Association of London
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Centre Communautaire Régional de London
- Centre for Addiction & Mental Health
- Centre for Life Long Learning
- Chalmer Presbyterian church
- Children's Aid Society of London & Middlesex
- City of London
- Collège Boréal
- Community Employment Choices
- Communauté catholique Ste-Marguerite d'Youville
- Conseil scolaire catholique Providence
- Conseil scolaire Viamonde
- Culture Office, City of London
- Diversity Inclusion Anti Oppression Advisory Committee
- Diocese of Roman Catholic London
- Elgin Middlesex Oxford Workforce Planning & Development Board
- Fanshawe College
- Holy Cross Romanian Orthodox Church
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- IMMPLOY
- Islamic Centre of Southwest Ontario
- Ismaili Muslim Community
- Jewish Community Centre
- John Howard Society of London & District
- Kala Manjari
- King's University College
- Kiwanis Senior Centre
- Liberian Association
- London Age Friendly Network
- London Community Chaplaincy
- London Cross Cultural Learner Centre
- London District Catholic School Board
- London Economic Development Corporation
- London Employment Help Centre
- London Intercommunity Health Centre
- London Muslim Mosque
- London Police Service
- London Public Library
- LUSO Community Services
- Metropolitan Community Church
- Merrymount Children's Centre
- Middlesex County

