



**YMCA of
Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford**
Employment, Training & Settlement Services

Session C1: Integrating Newcomer Services: Passing the Baton-Smooth Transitions from International Student to Newcomer

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Presentation Outline

- Programs and services available for newcomers in Hamilton
- Opportunities and Challenges
- Gaps in service for International Students



Programs & Services for Newcomers in Hamilton

- Orientation & Information
- Needs Assessment & Referral Services
- Resettlement Assistance Program
- Coordinated Language Assessment & Referral
- Settlement Workers in Schools
- English Language Training
- Welcoming Communities/Community Connections
- Bridging Programs



Opportunities

- Programs are delivered by a wide variety of delivery agencies
- Newcomers have a lot of agencies to support them
- YMCA, YWCA, Immigrants Working Centre, Wesley Urban Ministries, Mohawk College, St. Charles Adult Ed Centre, Community Continuing Education Centre, Circle of Friends, College Boreal
- Collaboration among partners through the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council's workgroups provide improved coordination of services
- Large variety of programming that meet the diverse needs of the new immigrant

Challenges

- Majority of the programs and services are funded by one funder
 - Citizenship and Immigration Canada
- Due to CIC being the major funder the programs can provide service to individuals with a very strict eligibility criteria
 - Permanent Residents, Government Assisted Refugees & Convention Refugees
 - Excludes temporary residents & International Students
- Provincial Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration & International Trades allows for an expanded eligibility criteria
 - Refugee claimants, new Canadian Citizens and International Students
- Provincial funding however is limited – only 2.5 settlement workers for all of Hamilton

Gaps in Service for International Students

- Reflected in the previous slide
- Wide variety of programming in Hamilton for newcomers ..however..
- Limited funding/staffing for those who have International Student status
- One pilot project currently occurring – International Student Connect to better connect International Students to the Hamilton community
- Pilot is only with one school and only a part time staff person working on the project



Presents

