

**Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration
Meeting Minutes**

*Thursday, March 10, 2011, 1 – 3 pm
Peterborough Public Library*

Present: Jenn Harrington (Chair PPCII) Jason Stabler (PPCII Coordinator, Minutes) John Hucks (Trent Valley International Coffee House, Vice-Chair PPCII), Becky Rogers (City of Peterborough), Debbie Harrison (Fleming College Diversity Office); Melissa Sharpe-Harrigan (PPCII Research and Implementation Specialist), Maryam Monsef (PPCII Outreach Coordinator), Eric Prugh (Investors Group), Hajni Hős (NCC Executive Director); John Coreno (City of Peterborough - Ontario Works), Karolyn Givogue (Community and Race Relations Committee), Anne Polito (Peterborough Family Resource Centre), Carmela Valles (Carmela Valles Immigration Consulting), Carolyn Leeson (Northern Lights Canada), Todd Barr (Trent Centre for Community-Based Education), Amanda Dibbits (County of Peterborough), Lori Thompson (CMHA), Richelle Clark (Workforce Development Board), Dawn Berry-Merriam (Peterborough Social Planning Council), Andreas Pickel (Trent University), Baptiste Marcere (Connexion Française), Davina Bhandar (Trent University), Ziyah Markson, Steve Ross (NCC-Settlement Workers in the Schools), Dawn Franklin (NCC-Coordinator, Settlement Workers in the Schools), Faye Shien Tan (NCC-Settlement Workers in the Schools), Jill Ritchie (KPR School Board), Malcolm Sheppard (Trent Valley Literacy Association), Michael Ma, Cath D'Amico (Trent International Program)

Regrets: Jean Giroux (Employment Planning and Counselling), Julie Cosgrove (Kawartha World Issues Centre), Anca Pascalau (City of Peterborough Immigration Portal), Lou O'Hara (Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Janet Hunter (Charterfield Consulting), Sonya Hardman (City of Peterborough-Community Social Plan)

Tasks:

- Send proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for PPCII to members and include closing date for comments.
- Circulate Speaking Notes to all members, upload speaking notes to PPCII website
- Add Integration Strategy and Action Plan as a standing item to all future agendas
- Access the Integration Strategy and Action Plan through the PPCII website at all future meetings.

1. New Agenda Items

a. Changes in Interpretation Services for victims of domestic violence- Jason Stabler

PPCII members received a memo about the delivery of Domestic Violence Translation Services. This service will now be delivered by the Multilingual Community Interpreter Services (MCIS) in Toronto rather than by Central Eastern Ontario Translation Services in Bellville.

b. Informal Survey for the Immigration Portal- Maryam Monsef

Present members were asked to complete a five item survey to enhance the Portal's content.

c. Permission to film parts of the meeting- Andreas Pickel

There were no objections to portions of the meeting being filmed for Andreas' ongoing project to document the immigrant community in Peterborough.

2. Presentation: Settlement Workers in the Schools (SWIS)- Dawn Franklin

Dawn described the history and scope of this new service provided by the New Canadians Centre. With a holistic approach to immigrants' needs, SWIS workers are placed directly in schools and provide information and referrals, encourage engagement and involvement, and provide support for school staff. SWIS staff will work with approximately 300 students and families in Peterborough, Cobourg, Courtice, and Bowmanville, and Given the small size of Peterborough, these services will also be available to Trent's International students. SWIS workers will begin offering their services as of March 21, 2011.

3. Review of the minutes of the January 13, 2011 PPCII meeting

PPCII members received an electronic copy of the minutes prior to the meeting. There were no issues with the minutes from the previous meeting.

4. Committee Reports:

**a. Marketing Committee (RDMC) report – Jason Stabler for Jean Giroux
(See Appendix A – for the full committee report)**

In an effort to increase traffic on the PPCII website, the Marketing Committee launched an online photo contest to illustrate the theme of "Peterborough as a Welcoming Community". The contest closes on May 15th, and PPCII members were asked to spread the word.

b. Integration Strategy Committee (ISC) report –Debbie Harrison
(See Appendix B– for the full committee report)

The committee has diverted the budget surplus of about \$10,000 to fund Alan Law’s project at Trent University. Dr Law will be developing a labour market survey to address some of economic development objectives of the Integration Strategy. The survey will be implemented through future collaborations with community partners like the Workforce Development Board and the Aging Workforce Project. The survey will be completed by the end of March

c. Training and Capacity Building Sub Committee – Jason Stabler for Sonya Hardman
(See Appendix C – for the full committee report)

The committee is looking for new members. The committee continues to offer its Professional Development workshops.. To date, 194 community members have attended these series. PPCII members were encouraged to take part and spread the word about the two remaining sessions. The committee is also implementing the final details for the Georges Laraque event taking place at Showplace on the 16th of March. PPCII members were encouraged to attend and spread the word about this event.

d. Executive Committee (EC) – Jenn Harrington
(See Appendix D – for the full committee report)

The committee recommended the development of a contingency plan so that the PPCII could continue beyond the next fiscal year. She outlined three modes for communication between PPCII and the public. She also discussed proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Committees and the PPCII. Jenn encouraged members to sign up to attend Chamber of Commerce socials on behalf of PPCII.

e. Funders Roundtable (FR) – Jason Stabler
(See Appendix E – for the full committee report)

Jason reported that the Committee held its first meeting and will be selecting a Chair at the next. He encouraged PPCII members to join the Committee as they identify resources to ensure the future operation of the PPCII as well as existing projects.

5. Report from the Treasurer – Amanda Dibbitts
(See Appendix F – for the full report)

Any monies left over from the current budget will be put towards the research project described above. A draft of the next budget will be available for the May PPCII meeting. The change of the budget line “Consulting Fees” to “Member Expenses” was highlighted. The PPCII discussed potential approaches to implementing the strategy through partnerships with other community organizations.

6. Integration Strategy Action Plan – *Melissa Sharpe-Harrigan*

Melissa discussed her approach to measuring how the Action Plan is capturing projects taking place in the community. She asked PPCII members to report any relevant events/programs their respective organizations are taking part in that may fall in line with the Strategy. PPCII staff is in the process of publishing the Action Plan in an interactive format online. PPCII members discussed the possibility of translating the Integration Strategy into different languages in the future. PPCII members suggested that the Integration Strategy and Action Plan be a standing item at future meetings and that this include accessing the Integration Strategy and Action Plan through the PPCII website.

7. Terms of Reference updating- *Jason Stabler*

See Appendix G for the Updated Terms of Reference for the Executive and Marketing Committees

Jason provided details on the proposed changes to the PPCII and the Executive and Marketing Committees’ Terms of Reference. PPCII approved changes to the Marketing and Executive Committees’ Terms of Reference, but asked for proposed changes to its own Terms of Reference to be circulated, with a timeline to comment. Proposed changes to the other Committees will be presented at the next meeting.

8. Report of the January 18th, 2011 Newcomer Advisory Group meeting – *Jason Stabler*

See Appendix H for the full report

Jason reported that at the last NAG meeting, Chanda shared his story and culture shock experienced when coming to Canada, Peterborough, and Trent. Chanda has been invited to attend a PPCII meeting to share his story with the entire membership of the PPCII. His story is also available on YouTube and the Immigration Portal as part of Professor Andreas Pickel’s project.

Next Partnership PPCII meeting: May 12, 2011, 1-3 pm, Public Library Auditorium

Together we prosper

