



**Highlighting A Local Initiative** – The **Community Coffee House** at **Thom Collegiate** is an opportunity for children, teens and adults to learn and practice the English language, meet new friends and build community. The Coffee House model is made possible through a partnership between Regina Open Door Society and Regina Public Schools.

265 Argyle Street North; Every Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. (Sept to June)  
Contact: [claudine.neetz@rbe.sk.ca](mailto:claudine.neetz@rbe.sk.ca)



## REGINA REGION LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP E-PROJECT UPDATE— ISSUE #11 DECEMBER 2017

### RRLIP Project Update

We are excited to announce a **new staff member** has joined the RRLIP team. Laura Strong comes to this role with extensive experience in community development and stakeholder engagement (bio included in adjacent article). Her role with the RRLIP will continue to focus on the tasks of community development and engagement.

Two RRLIP coordinated **Refugee Sponsoring Community Network** meetings have taken place, with members expressing gratitude for the support and a desire to convene regularly (every 6 to 8 weeks). The group requested presentations from local employment service providers. Members identified and agreed that labour market integration is key to successful settlement and integration outcomes, aligning well with the employment priority identified in the **Settlement and Integration Community Plan** <http://rrlip.ca/userdata/files/201/Settlement%20and%20Integration%20Community%20Plan%20June%202017.pdf>.

RRLIP has partnered with the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) to offer Regina residents the **We Speak Translate** webinar training. The webinar training allows participants to become more familiar with the capacity of the **Google Translate App** as a means of connecting with new immigrants and refugees in Regina. If you'd like information about the **We Speak Translate Project** and how you can book a free training session for your workplace or group, please email [info@rrlip.ca](mailto:info@rrlip.ca).

In partnership with RIF-SK (Provincially-focused Francophone Immigration Network), RRLIP staff presented the **Refugee Photo Project** to participants during Francophone Immigration Week. The project is now available in both official languages on the RRLIP website [rrlip.ca](http://rrlip.ca). The Francophone translation of the Photo Project travelled to different community and province-wide events, courtesy of RIF-SK. If you'd like to borrow the posters for an upcoming meeting or event, please contact the RRLIP office to reserve them.

RRLIP staff presented to the conference participants at the **Saskatchewan Association of Immigrant Settlement and Integration Agencies Summit** (<http://saisia.ca>) about collaboration between the RRLIP and RIF-SK and how the settlement sector can leverage the support of their Immigration Partnerships (e.g. Immigration Partnerships can facilitate connections to enhance service delivery and coordination, promote the sector's resource and programming information and provide research and demographic information to support program planning).



Recently, the RRLIP has become the host location for relevant LIP and local priority-related webinars. For example, we recently hosted the Conference Board of Canada's Beyond Bricks and Mortar: Rethinking Refugees and Housing. Members from the RRLIP's **Canadian Housing Advisory Committee (CHAC)** attended, as well as other housing sector stakeholders. The CHAC is currently examining ways to better support newcomers in their adaption to Canadian housing.



**Happy Holidays to the Regina Community! Thank you for your commitment to fostering a welcoming community.**



### New RRLIP Staff Member

Laura moved to Regina in 2014, coming from the East coast of Newfoundland. Previous to her new role at the RRLIP, she had been working as the Community Connection Worker with the Regina Open Door Society for 3 1/2 years. In this role, she was responsible for facilitating the integration of newcomers into their new communities in Regina. A major part of her role included providing cultural awareness training to community members and service providers and supporting those who were interested in learning more about newcomers and how to effectively engage and work with them. Previous to this Laura was an Employment Counsellor and has been working in the non-profit sector for close to 15 years. Laura is very excited to join the RRLIP team and is looking forward to continuing to support and bring the Regina community together in their efforts to support positive newcomer integration!

### Learn about the RRLIP Project

If you'd like to learn more about the RRLIP Project, please contact the office to book a FREE information session. Each session includes background information, project updates and information about why and how to leverage the support of your Local Immigration Partnership.

[info@rrlip.ca](mailto:info@rrlip.ca) 306-791-6841



Project website

[rrlip.ca](http://rrlip.ca)

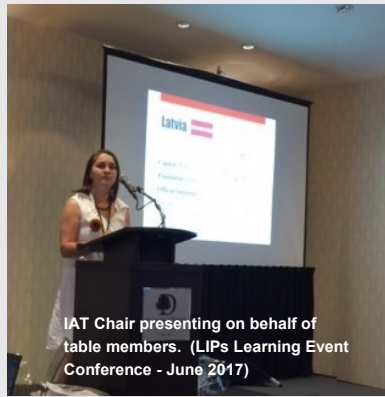
## Highlighting the Immigrant Advisory Table

Convened by the RRLIP Project, the **Immigrant Advisory Table** is comprised of foreign-born volunteers currently residing in Regina. The IAT was established to bring lived experience to the project, ensuring the newcomer perspective informs the work and decisions of the RRLIP Partnership Council and its respective Working Groups.

In addition, The **Immigrant Advisory Table** can support the broader community's efforts to welcome, settle and integrate newcomers. **If your agency, business or organization would like the opportunity to consult with the Immigrant Advisory Table, please contact the project office at [info@rrlip.ca](mailto:info@rrlip.ca)**

An example of community consultation occurred at a recent IAT meeting. The Regina Public Library asked targeted questions of the IAT members to help inform the work and newcomer outreach of the RPL. The meeting format included IAT feedback to the library, as well as information about the extensive services available at the Library. Both parties left feeling they had gained helpful and important information.

The IAT is looking for new members to join the volunteer table, so if you are passionate about building a more welcoming community, please see the [IAT page](http://rrlip.ca/userdata/files/201/IAT/Fillable%20IAT%20Application%20Form%202017%20-%202018%20website.pdf) and apply at <http://rrlip.ca/userdata/files/201/IAT/Fillable%20IAT%20Application%20Form%202017%20-%202018%20website.pdf>



The **Settlement and Integration Community Plan** was developed with evidence from local research, community forums, newcomer, service provider and key stakeholder feedback, as well as the experience and expertise of the project's stakeholder tables. The 4 local priorities are: **employment, education, childcare and Canadian daily living.**

<http://rrlip.ca/userdata/files/201/Settlement%20and%20Integration%20Community%20Plan%20June%202017.pdf>



**Tool of Inclusion:** Through a partnership with the **Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA)**, the RRLIP Project has offered the **We Speak Translate** webinar training to the Regina community. The **We Speak Translate Project** is a collaboration between ICA and Google. This user-friendly, free webinar training, introduces the App as a 'tool of inclusion,' allowing you to create moments of connection with newcomers. Many Regina residents are familiar with the **Google Translate App**, but may not be aware of the App's full capacity.

For more information and/or to book a free training session, please contact the RRLIP office at [info@rrlip.ca](mailto:info@rrlip.ca)



## Thank you to our project partners



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(Google Translate Feature)

**The Regina Region Local Immigration Partnership (RRLIP)** is a **community initiative** designed to improve the settlement and integration of newcomers.

### Vision and Mission Statement



The RRLIP Partnership Council recently approved a newly revised vision and mission statement for the project. We'd appreciate the

community's assistance in sharing these statements.

**Vision:** Regina welcomes newcomers, values and celebrates diversity and supports the integration of all residents.

**Mission:** The Regina Region Local Immigration Partnership (RRLIP) and its member organizations will educate, collaborate and partner for the benefit of newcomers in Regina.

Also revised was the definition of a newcomer for the purposes of the RRLIP's work:

A **newcomer** is defined as people born outside of Canada and currently residing in Regina, Sask.

**Informal language learning opportunities** help to support and enhance language acquisition, especially while newcomer clients are waiting to join LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) or Stage 1 or 2 language classes.

If you are aware of informal language learning opportunities that are not currently listed in the **Practise Speaking English: Regina Conversation Circles Guide**, please contact the office.

<http://rrlip.ca/pages/project-resources>