

Media Release**Local Immigration Partnership – Lanark & Renfrew Launches Two New Welcoming Community Resources**

(Pembroke-September 28, 2022) Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) – Lanark & Renfrew launches two new resources to help ensure Ottawa Valley communities are ready to welcome newcomers with open arms with its Community Resource website portal and its Intercultural Development Inventory assessment service.

Thanks to the efforts of the LIP-Lanark & Renfrew's Creating Connections and Agricultural Sector working group members, the team built a digital resource package targeted at community members who support newcomers and build capacity for those interested in helping newcomers. Over 80 resource items have been curated to support various groups across the Ottawa Valley, from what it means to be a good ally to diversity and inclusion training to better understanding the immigration system.

"I believe the Community Resource Website Portal is a vital gem for all in our community. This portal offers a wealth of valuable information for such groups as community members, employers, employment services providers, educators, refugee sponsors, government allies, and those working in the agricultural sector. As a Councillor in Laurentian Valley, this is an essential asset to refer community members when they approach me with questions," shares Keith Watt, Councillor, Laurentian Valley Township and Creating Connection working group member.

LIP – Lanark & Renfrew has also expanded its services to offer the Intercultural Development Inventory® (IDI®) as a complimentary resource to local businesses, organizations, and groups in the Lanark and Renfrew County area. The service is ideal for those looking to increase their group and individual intercultural competency, including recognizing and appreciating cultural similarities and differences and building a more inclusive, diverse, and equitable workplace.

The Intercultural Development Inventory®(IDI®) is a statistically reliable, cross-culturally valid measure of intercultural competence and is widely used in corporate, government, military, not-for-profit organizations, and educational institutions worldwide. The LIP – Lanark & Renfrew team are trained and licensed IDI Qualified Administrators available to work with your organization.

"The senior managers and owner of Tim Hortons Renfrew joined the Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) program in 2022 to start the journey toward a more intercultural mindset and even more inclusive workplace through the Intercultural Development Inventory® (IDI) assessment program. This program has proven extremely valuable, already helping to develop our team as well as

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proving to be an amazing resource for information in helping new Canadians and our team members seeking Permanent Residence. The entire LIP team has been amazing to work with, and I believe every employer could benefit from the IDI program," shares Richard Dean, General Manager, Tim Hortons Renfrew.

It takes work to be a welcoming community, and LIP – Lanark & Renfrew is here to support you. Learn more about these new resources by visiting liplanarkrenfrew.ca/community-resources and liplanarkrenfrew.ca/services/facilitation.

We acknowledge the financial support of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. Local Immigration Partnerships support communities in bringing together service providers, settlement agencies, community groups, employers, municipalities, and other key organizations to create a welcoming and inclusive community for newcomers. In Lanark and Renfrew Counties, the work of the Local Immigration Partnership is administered by Algonquin College's Pembroke Campus.

For more information,

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