

Services Provided Include:

- Information regarding settlement services, general employment information, housing, education, health, credential assessment and acquisition of citizenship.
- Orientation to life in Canada and the community.
- Connecting newcomers to available services/resources in the community.
- Orientation to the Canadian school culture and environment.
- Facilitate parental involvement in their children's education.



CONTACT

Gifty Nelson

Settlement Practitioner

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Offices:

Downtown: Mon & Fri: Dr. Clark Elementary School

8453 Franklin Avenue, Downtown

Tel: 780 743-2444 Ext: 4190

Timberlea: Tues: Timberlea Public School

106 Brett Drive

Tel: 780-743-5771

Downtown: Wed: Composite High School

9803 Kings Street

Tel: 780-743-5800 Ext:177

Thick wood: Thurs: St. Gabriel Elementary School

585 Signal Road, Thick wood

Tel: 780-799-5745 Ext: 6139

Partnering School Districts

Fort McMurray Public

Fort McMurray Catholic



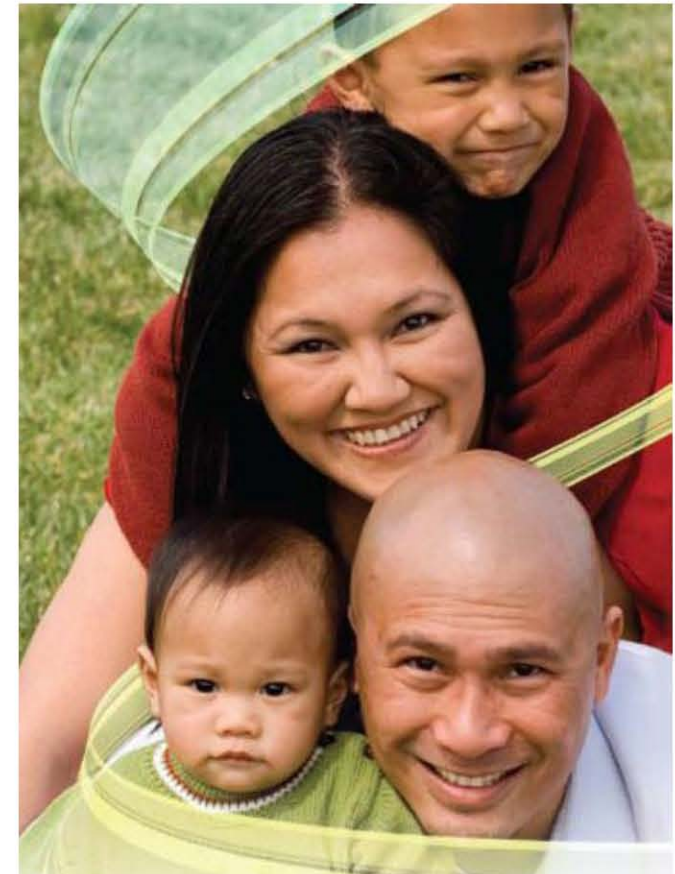
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In-School Settlement Services

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Each year Alberta welcomes many newcomers from around the world. Many come to Canada seeking opportunities and bright futures for themselves and their families. Adjusting to a new community and school can be challenging and requires times and support.

To help newcomer students and families settle in their school and community, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Settlement Agencies and School Boards have partnered in an outreach program known as **In-School Settlement Services**.

When newcomer families first arrive in Canada, schools are one of the first places they connect with in the community. The **In-School Settlement Services** program in cooperation with local school districts has placed Settlement Practitioners in a number of schools with high newcomer populations.

The role of the settlement practitioners is to systematically contact all newcomer families and connect them to the community through information, orientation and referrals to specific community resources.

Who qualifies?

Immigrant and refugees who are new to Canada within the past three years or more.

Working to Help Newcomers

Settlement Practitioners work in the school setting to:

- Assess needs of immigrant students and families and the barriers to successful Integration;
- Provide parents with information and resources on settlement and immigration issues;
- Help students adjust to school culture and focus on learning;
- Increase parents' understanding of Canadian culture and how to function competently in the community at large;
- Increase parents' involvement in the education of their children; and participation in the community;
- Increase access to programs and services of particular relevance and need for new immigrant families.

Services are provided in a culturally competent manner, in languages specific to the needs of each family and are confidential. Services are free.



Connecting Newcomers with Services

Families are connected with many services that assist in making the transition to a new community including

- Housing;
- ESL/ Language classes;
- Upgrading your education;
- Subsidized childcare/accessing child care services;
- Employment/job searches/resume writing;
- Getting information about your rights as an employee or tenant;
- Applying for a Social Insurance Number;
- Applying for an Albertan Health Card;
- Applying for Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB);
- Finding a bank and opening an account;
- Assessing public transit;
- Obtaining a driver's license;
- Assessing work skills, accreditation and licensing;
- Immigration—Sponsorship/citizenship.