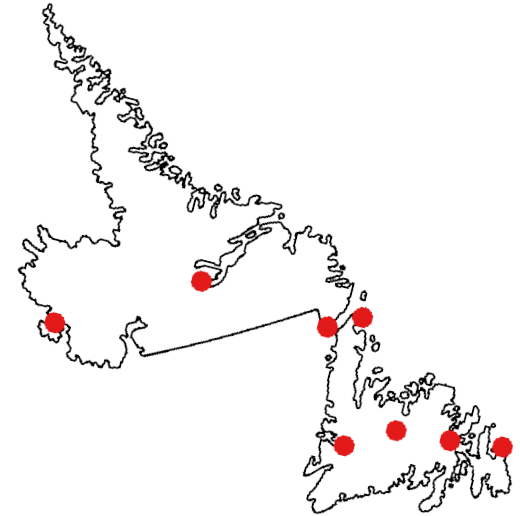




The Role the Association for New Canadians Plays in Supporting Newcomers

ABOUT THE SATELLITE OFFICES

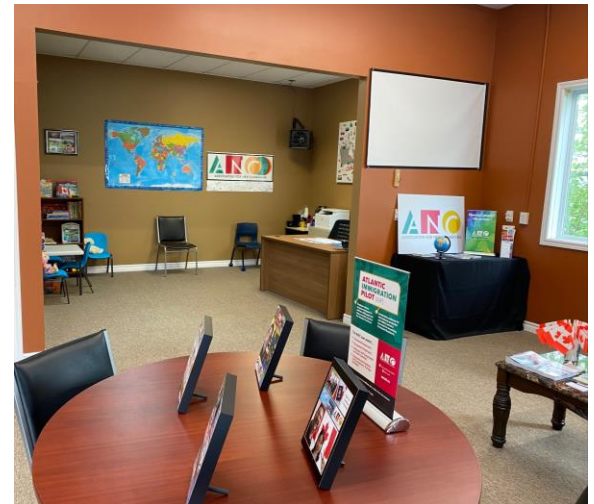
- > Founded in 1979, the Association for New Canadians is a community-based, non-profit, non-governmental organization
- > We have a **team of over 200 staff** supported by hundreds of volunteers across the province
- > Satellite Offices work to support newcomers living in Newfoundland and Labrador. Offices are located in 8 locations:
 - > Clarenville
 - > Grand Falls–Windsor
 - > Corner Brook
 - > Labrador City
 - > Happy Valley–Goose Bay
 - > Forteau
 - > St. Anthony
 - > Gander



***ANC Office Locations
By Region***

ABOUT THE SATELLITE OFFICES

- > Each Satellite Office has regional service areas with varying numbers of staff on-site
- > All operate as “mini-ANCs” offering the full scope of settlement services (in-person, online, distance delivery);
- > Provide a wide variety of assistance and supports to newcomer clients, including:
 - > Settlement Support and Services
 - > Language Training and Assessment
 - > Diversity & Public Education
 - > Community Connections
 - > Atlantic Immigration Program/ Intercultural Training
 - > Employment and Career Supports



WHO WE SERVE

- > **Satellite Offices serve ALL newcomers** regardless of status living, working, and studying across the province. These include:
 - > Refugees (Government Assisted and Privately Sponsored)
 - > Temporary Residents (Students, Workers, Visitors)
 - > Other Permanent Residents (Economic, AIP, PN)
 - > New Canadian Citizens
 - > + spouses, children, and other dependents/family members of these individuals.
- > All services are offered **WITHOUT COST.**

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

1. Settlement Supports
2. Language Training and Assessment Services
3. Community Connections
4. Diversity and Public Education
5. Employment and Career Supports

WHY IMMIGRATION?

- We know that over the past several decades this province has experienced a demographic decline.
- In a Statistics Canada report released in August, 2022, it was projected that the province would see a population decline of 16%, from 528, 818 to 444,200 by 2043.

WHY IMMIGRATION?

- Immigration can combat population decline, and immigrants increase growth in our labour force, thereby increasing our tax base and providing an economic boost as drivers of innovation and employment, among others.
- Newfoundland and Labrador has now seen seven consecutive quarters of population growth and there is now net growth within our schools
- In 2022 alone, nearly 3,500 permanent residents were admitted to the province.

ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES

How can municipalities design policies and programs to make their communities more attractive to encourage newcomers to build lives and reside long-term?

It is vital that municipalities highlight their assets *and* attributes of their communities in order to help attract and retain newcomers.

Many newcomers leave a community if they feel they do not feel included or represented in the local socio-cultural landscape.

ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES

The **Federation of Canadian Municipalities** has produced a great document to guide municipalities entitled *Welcoming Communities: A Toolkit for Local Government*.

Towns and cities across the province are already undertaking interesting and unique initiatives.

WHAT HAVE MUNICIPALITIES DONE?

Communities on the west coast of the province collaborated with the ANC and the provincial government to welcome Ukrainians interested in relocating to the region. As employment is vital to attraction and retention, job fairs were held in Corner Brook, Deer Lake, and Stephenville.

The Town of Gander is working with its growing Muslim community to help establish the community's first mosque

The Town of Grand Falls-Windsor has plans to dedicate housing units for newcomer families to help them settle in their community.

WHAT HAVE MUNICIPALITIES DONE?

At the community level, initiatives such as the St. John's Local Immigration Partnership (SJLIP) work collaboratively with settlement agencies to support newcomers following their arrival.

The SJLIP, one of 70 LIPs across Canada, is a collaborative community-based alliance dedicated to helping identify gaps and enhance or create opportunities for newcomers in St. John's.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Developing a Municipal Immigration Strategy as a means to attract and retain newcomers
- Hosting welcome events/open houses to help newcomers develop a connection and attachment to their new home
- Encouraging local residents to volunteer to help a newcomer navigate their community. This helps build friendship and develop a sense of community identity for a newcomer

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Lowering costs, or providing free access to community events. This eliminates barriers to participation.
- Providing information packets on community programs and resources to assist newcomers to learn about how and where to access available services.
- Translating key municipal documents
- Encouraging local supermarkets to carry culturally appropriate foods

CONCLUSION

- This province is world renowned for its friendly, welcoming people and natural beauty. These attributes are great magnets to draw newcomers; however they may not be enough.
- Our policies must act as anchors, responsive to the changing nature of both employment and the work-life balance which encourage people to stay here long-term.

QUESTIONS?





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