

*bringing people
and communities together*



**2014/2015
Annual Report**

PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada

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This report covers the period from September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015

Shawn Murphy

President of the Board



The PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada (PEI ANC) has concluded another productive and exciting year. Our numbers stayed high, the demand for our services grew, and we continued to meet the settlement needs of our newest neighbours. The Board of Directors of PEI ANC is extremely proud of our committed management and staff, and each and every day we see the results of their efforts.

PEI ANC continues to enjoy good relations with our major funding stakeholders, the Government of Canada and the Government of Prince Edward Island, and I thank them for their continued support. I want to thank Ali Salari for his past dedication to the Board, and to welcome Selvi Roy and Ali Assadi to the Board. I thank all of our Board members for their commitment to this organization.

Our Island communities are growing, schools have more students, and more dollars are being spent locally on goods and services because of the number of newcomers who have chosen to live here on Prince Edward Island. There can be no doubt that the new residents coming to our province are enhancing our economy and our society.

Craig Mackie

Executive Director



We are living through a historic time on Prince Edward Island. Over the past year, we have welcomed 1372 immigrants and refugees from 79 countries. We are also supporting hundreds of temporary foreign workers and international students. Over the past five years those numbers combined, are over 6,400 from

120 different countries. We are becoming a multicultural Island in a brief period of time, and this is both exciting and challenging.

Welcoming, settling, and supporting the integration of newcomers to Canada takes kindness, empathy, awareness, and respect. I want to pay tribute to the volunteer members of our Board of Directors, and to the hundreds of PEI ANC volunteers who contribute so mightily to our work of supporting newcomers. I have the distinct honour and pleasure of working with a creative, energetic, and enthusiastic group of people who are committed to the successful settlement of our clients. I also want to acknowledge the many members of the general public, the businesses, and other non-profits who participate in our activities and engage our clients in so many ways.

Our clients have amazing stories to tell and we are proud to present some of them here in this Annual Report. On behalf of all of us at PEI ANC, thank you for your support and another great year.

PARTNERS IN THE WELL-BEING OF NEWCOMERS TO CANADA

PEI ANC Newcomer Settlement Services assist new immigrants to PEI during their settlement and integration process, as well as Government Assisted Refugees (GARs) after they complete the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP). A key function of settlement workers is to act as a liaison between clients and community organizations on PEI. Here are some of NSS's primary partners in welcoming and supporting newcomers:

Addictions Services: client referral, information, and support

Anderson House: emergency housing, second stage housing, client referral, and support

Catholic Family Services: counselling services, client referral, and support

CHANCES Family Center: pre-natal classes, Best Start Program, and CHANCES health clinic Nurse Practitioner services

Charlottetown Fire Department: fire safety outreach to clients

Department of Communities, Land and Environment - Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division: provides information to clients on sustainable and proper fishing practices

Family Place, Summerside: pre-natal classes, parenting programs, and client support

Halifax Refugee Clinic: legal advice, connections, and client support

Holland College: provides proof of schooling for social services and immigration and citizenship applications, assists international students to connect to PEI ANC services

Human Rights Commission, PEI: legal information, notary service, and client support

Public Health: immunization clinics held at the PEI ANC, and Children's Dental Health Program

RDÉE Île-du-Prince-Édouard: settlement support for francophone clients

Richmond Center: counselling services, client referral, and support

UPEI: assists international students to connect to PEI ANC services

Victims Services: advocate for clients, and client support

CHANCES FAMILY CENTRE'S NURSE PRACTITIONER

The Nurse Practitioner at CHANCES, Mary Catherine Connolly, ensures better health care for Government Assisted Refugees. She is a proactive health care professional who gives the best quality of care possible to PEI ANC clients and all of her patients. She has time for each family, gets to the root of each health issue, and directs her attention there as well as to symptoms. Clients feel comfortable with Mary Catherine as her warm personality puts them at ease during stressful times. PEI ANC is thrilled to work with Mary Catherine Connolly to improve the health outcomes of our clients.

”

As the nurse practitioner at the clinic, I have been very impressed by the level of commitment and support shown by the Association and the resettlement case workers. Their assistance has greatly improved the care that I am able to provide to families new to PEI and clearly makes a difference in the lives of these families.

~ Mary Catherine Connolly, RN, NM, NP

”

PEI FAMILY FUN DAY

Family Fun Day brought together community partners who promote healthy relationships in families, to share their information at a fun and engaging event at the Rodd Royalty Hotel. The day began with a local parenting expert communicating knowledge and tips regarding positive parenting to forty-five pre-registered attendees. In the afternoon the public event had information booths set up from various community organizations, including Charlottetown Fire Department, Provincial Library Services, 4H, Boys and Girls Club, CHANCES Family Centre, Community Legal Information Association (CLIA), Rape & Sexual Assault Centre, Victim Services, Family Violence Prevention Services, and more. There were fun activities including a bouncy castle, a petting zoo, a local children's performer, The Music Man, and full use of the swimming pool. There were approximately 300 in attendance, a large number of those from the refugee and recent immigrant population, and feedback was very positive.

Justice Options for Women's Project Manager, Kirstin Lund, had this to say about PEI ANC's involvement: "Family Fun Day was part of a larger project PEI ANC partnered on with Justice Options for Women. The overall project was focused on bringing together a local committee to develop strategies for addressing violence against women and girls in the immigrant and newcomer community. Working in partnership with the PEI ANC transformed our project. We were able to create an action plan that fit the immigrant and newcomer population, raised awareness among women and girls about resources available, and among service providers about the needs of the community." ■

Newcomer Settlement Services (NSS)

Newcomer Settlement Services workers provide assistance with orientation, translation, interpretation, access to services such as immunization programs and other medical services, and will make referrals to, and act as liaison with, community services and government programs. NSS clients include temporary foreign workers and international students on PEI.





Resettlement Assistance Program Statistics (September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015)

number of Government Assisted Refugees welcomed **59**

number of information sessions delivered **9**

countries of origin
Iraq
Somalia
Myanmar
Bhutan
Syria
Uganda
Burundi



Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP)

This program is designed to meet initial settlement needs for Government Assisted Refugees (GARs). It is delivered in the 6-8 weeks after their arrival in Prince Edward Island. Services include: temporary accommodations, an initial assessment, and the delivery of orientation and needed information in order to begin the resettlement process, as well as linkage to other existing programs and services.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PRIVATE SPONSOR GROUPS

Private sponsorship of a refugee family comes with great rewards; it is also a significant amount of work for sponsoring groups, especially if they are not well prepared. Melissa Coffin, the Resettlement Assistance Program worker at PEI ANC, provides guidance and information to private sponsor groups in order to give them the knowledge and skills they need to meet their goals and the needs of refugees. She holds public meetings to inform those Islanders interested in sponsorships with information on the overall process. Now that there is no local access to a Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) staff person on PEI, Melissa also works as a liaison with CIC for sponsorship groups. Private sponsorship is important to the community, to the refugee population, and to the former refugee families who are looking to reunite with their family members, through sponsorship, here on PEI. PEI ANC supports a smooth settlement process and positive outcomes for all involved.



The Association for Newcomers has been a valuable resource in steering our Sponsorship Committee through the many steps of resettlement. From the moment we learned our Burmese family was coming, Melissa Coffin at ANC walked us through what to expect. She provided insights from the initial meeting at the airport, to apartment size and location, to applying for health coverage and language training. The Association for Newcomers will continue to be the shoulder we lean on as we move forward with our family to make PEI a warm and welcoming community in which they can thrive.

~ Lou Richard, St. Pius X Refugee Sponsorship Committee.



International Student on a Path to Residency Ling Chen

Ling Chen came to PEI in August 2012 on a one-year student exchange to study at UPEI. She loved the warmth and kindness of the Island so much that after the year ended she decided to stay at UPEI to finish her degree as an international student. "My first contact with the PEI ANC was in 2013 through a booth they had set up at UPEI. The Settlement Worker was very helpful and answered all my questions."

Ling graduated in May 2015 and was granted a Post Graduate Work Permit. She now works for a Charlottetown accounting firm and plans to become a professional accountant in the future. She is currently enrolled in the CPA program. Ling is also preparing to apply for Permanent Residency through the Provincial Nominee International Graduate Stream. "I am so impressed with how the PEI ANC has helped me—first with my settlement needs, then employment search, and now with my pathway to Permanent Residency. I have made many friends in the last three years. Everything is so familiar. I would like to make PEI my home." ■



A Future in Western PEI Eliza Gonzales

Eliza Gonzales, a Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW), first met with Rosalie Blanchard, the PEI ANC Settlement Worker tasked with assisting international students and TFWs, in the fall of 2014. She had questions about extending her work permit and applying for a permanent job in PEI. Rosalie provided her with all the information she needed and after a few more meetings, assisted her with extending her status in Canada.

In early 2015 Eliza got married to Josue LeGresley and they made the decision to apply for a Spousal Sponsorship. Eliza says, "The sponsorship process is overwhelming and we didn't know where to start. Rosalie is kind and supportive and has worked so much with us. We feel good about the application we are submitting."

Eliza continues to work in Western PEI and is excited about her future in Canada. The couple recently purchased a new home and Eliza would eventually like to pursue a career in the health services field. ■

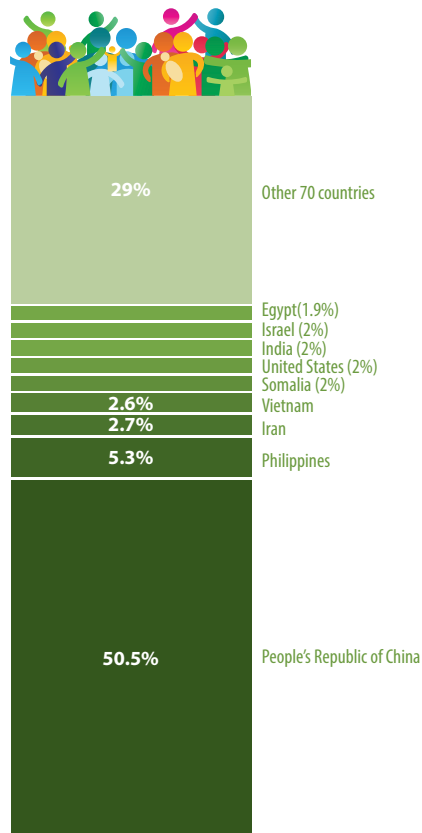


Intake and Referral Services

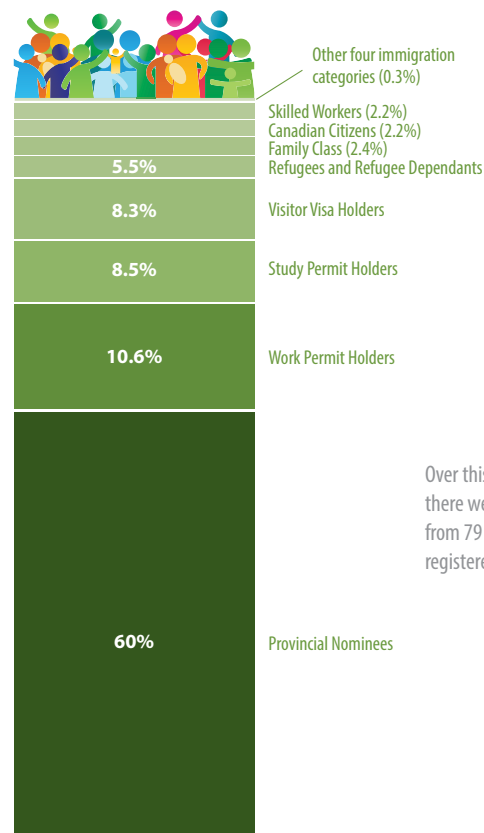
Before accessing settlement services, newcomers like Ling on the previous page and others whose stories are told in this report, must register through PEI ANC’s Intake. The Intake Worker determines eligibility for programs, completes a needs assessment for each member of a family, and refers clients to community programs.

Intake for the period from September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015 – Total: 1,372 clients

Number of registered clients by country of origin



Number of registered clients by immigration category



Over this reporting period, there were 1,372 new clients from 79 countries who registered with PEI ANC.

LANGUAGE REFERRALS

Referrals of clients to Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) on PEI are coordinated through PEI ANC, and 546 referrals have been made during this reporting period. Both Holland College and Study Abroad Canada accommodate newcomers learning English with full-time LINC day classes. EAL night classes are also offered at Holland College. Clients who have obligations during the day can take part in online LINC Home Study. Language training is provided in Levels 1 to 8 and is based on Canadian Language Benchmark standards. The main purpose of the LINC program is to develop communication in English through reading, speaking, listening and writing so that each student is able to integrate into Canadian society ease, and become a self-sufficient member of his or her community.

**A Leader on and off the Field
Mon San Aung**

Mon San was born in Myanmar in 1998, as a refugee. In 2007, he immigrated to PEI at nine years of age, along with his mother Ja Aong, his older sister Mon Pan (11) and his older brother Mun Lat (14).

Over the years, Mon San has participated in many Immigrant Student Services (ISS) activities, such as the Summer Program, BroZone, Youth Leadership Program, YMCA Youth Exchange, and sports. Mon San has grown into a responsible young man who excels in many areas. His greatest passion is soccer, for which he holds many trophies including one for sportsman-like conduct on the field.

Mon San also volunteered with ISS for two years, 2012-2013, working with immigrant children and youth at different events. In 2015, he was hired, in a very competitive process, for a position as PEI ANC Summer Camp Leader.

The ISS Summer Program hires two newcomer youth for this position as an opportunity to gain self-confidence, leadership skills, and job experience that will increase their chances to be hired in the future. As a summer camp leader, Mon San demonstrated many of his wonderful abilities and skills. He truly embraces immigrant children and was caring, generous, patient and very responsible with his duties.

Mon San says, “I was lucky to immigrate to Canada when I was younger. I was still in Elementary School and ISS staff supported my mother and all three of us kids. They helped my mother with school issues and parent teacher interviews, I was able to join PEI ANC youth groups and make friends, and I got connected to sports, especially soccer. I am on the Provincial Team now but that might not have happened without the support of ISS. I am happy to volunteer with ISS programs now that I am older, and it was so great to be hired for the summer—it was the best summer job!”



Mon San is graduating this coming school year and PEI ANC foresees a great future for this determined, kind, and talented young man. ■

Immigrant Student Services (ISS)

ISS workers help newcomer families with school-aged children to register and integrate into the PEI school system. They assist with cross-cultural interpreting and connecting immigrant children with recreational arts and sports programs. ISS operates an annual Summer Program for younger students (Grades 1-6), and offers a variety of social programming throughout the year for all school-aged youth. The ISS Family Counsellor offers *Parenting in a New Country* courses.



PEI ANC GIRLS INC. PROGRAM

Girls Inc. Program was facilitated by ISS staff for the fifth time in 2014-2015. Girls Inc. has worked with 100 young women since 2011. The program is funded through CIC with a primary goal of fostering healthy support networks among immigrant girls and PEI ANC staff. The program strives to teach valuable life skills and to create an environment where girls feel comfortable to address personal issues and challenges they may be facing.

Groups are made up of refugee and immigrant girls aged 12-17. Sessions rotate between junior high and high school aged groups so that ages and interests are similar. Girls Inc. is composed of twelve, three-hour sessions which focus on a variety of topics pertinent to teenage girls. Sessions can include team building, body image and the media, fun activities, cyberbullying and internet safety, gender stereotypes, positive role models, healthy eating, and active living. ■



Comments from Participants

I loved Girls Inc. because it was a good place to learn and also make new friends.

~

I would suggest the group to other girls because I think it's important for girls to know these things.

~

I liked Girls Inc. because you get to be yourself and you don't have to try and be perfect there.

~

I loved Girls Inc. because it helps girls to think more about themselves.



Interesting Facts about the Immigrant Student Services Program (September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015)

number of students who attended school orientation sessions	252
number of group sessions delivered to youth	116
average attendance to ISS youth groups	85%
number of parents who attended one or more parenting workshops	44
youth who requested employment support	60
youth placed in a work or volunteer position	30
<hr/>	
total number of students served in the reporting period	827



THE ISS SPORT PROGRAM

Sports play a significant role in the lives of children through learning the skills associated with the game, making new friendships, increasing a sense of belonging, providing a positive focus to keep youth out of trouble, and keeping them active and healthy. These benefits are especially true for newly arrived immigrant and refugee youth.

The biggest barrier for newcomers, especially former refugees, is language. Clients often feel uncomfortable approaching sport organizations to talk about the fees, sport equipment, and transportation issues. Some newcomer children have never been a part of an organized team and need to learn about practice schedules and ride sharing.



ANC's Immigrant Student Sport Program reaches out to sport organizations on behalf of clients. They relay information to parents and coaches, remove barriers to participation, and assist newcomer children to make a smooth transition into the team environment. Through the past summer, 75 newcomer youth were registered in soccer programs alone! The number of clients during this reporting period, who applied for and met the KidSport/Jumpstart funding requirements, totaled 147 clients.

An equipment sharing program at ISS also enables clients to borrow sports equipment, and allows this equipment to be cleaned, sorted, and reused from child to child. This year, a total of 48 clients accessed equipment through the program. ISS Sport is just one more way that PEI ANC works to open doors for newcomer youth and their families to become part of Island and Canadian life. ■

CONNECTING PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Parent Teacher Interviews (PTIs) can represent a challenge to some newcomer families, as parents are not familiar with this process, and language barriers for many parents can make talking to teachers about their child's progress intimidating. However, these interviews provide a rich opportunity for parents and teachers to talk together about how to help each child succeed. So the challenge was to find a way to ensure newcomer families were made welcome at PTIs.

For several years, the Immigrant Student Services team at PEI ANC has offered a PTI program that helps address this challenge by supporting schools with interpreter services, and helping with the planning of the twice-yearly interviews. The provision of interpreter services increases the participation of newcomer parents, which in turn has a positive impact on newcomer families and their children's public school performance and experience.

Parent Teacher Interviews for the 2014-2015 School Calendar Year



interviews arranged with PEI ANC interpretation services	324
number of languages used for interpreting	12
hours of interpretation services	250
number of schools using PEI ANC services for PTIs	14

POST-SECONDARY DIVERSITY TRAINING



International students make up approximately 16% of the University of PEI's student population, and Holland College attracts a growing number of overseas students each year, accounting for about 4% of its student body. These numbers translate to increasingly diverse campuses.

PEI ANC's Multicultural Education Program (MEP) delivers workshops or presentations to classes within both institutions. One objective is to raise cross-cultural awareness amongst students who are predominantly from the established Island/Canadian community. In addition, faculty at both institutions recognize the importance of preparing their students for multicultural workplaces on PEI and beyond.

Workshops and presentation are interactive, and tailored to the class, based on course content. Sessions vary from 75 minutes to a half-day, and they provide participants with strategies to develop inter-cultural communication skills to engage more effectively with their international peers and their future colleagues. Longer presentations examine bias, stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination, and the negative effects of these beliefs. Since funding for diversity training for K-12 schools was cut in 2015, MEP cross-cultural competency training at post-secondary institutions is one way PEI ANC can continue to contribute to the development of anti-discriminatory attitudes and beliefs amongst youth on PEI. ■



Christina Campbell (L) and Simone Stahel-Webster

about the importance and value of citizenship, precede the official swearing-in ceremony. All soon-to-be Canadians are invited to participate. The roundtable discussions are facilitated either by an established PEI community member, or by a newer Canadian who has recently gone through the citizenship process. Participants share their stories of immigration and they reflect upon what citizenship means to them, and upon the importance of active, engaged citizenship. ■

ENGAGING CANADIAN CITIZENS

For the past four years, the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada has played a key role in the coordination of special community citizenship ceremonies. In partnership with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, and the Stratford Town Hall, and supported by other individuals and businesses in the community, two PEI ANC staff members, Craig Mackie and Suna Houghton, lead the PEI Building Citizenship Committee.

The PEI Committee's community ceremony is held once a year during Canadian Citizenship Week. Unique, culturally inclusive, roundtable discussions



This was a special moment filled with many emotions—the moment when newcomers become new citizens of Canada. I heard many stories that day, some were sad stories with people escaping war or persecution, some were about seeking new opportunities, and some were about love. And no matter how hard the journey was for some of the newcomers, at this point there were universal sentiments of optimism, hope and pride in becoming Canadian. These sentiments also went beyond the individual—they expressed feeling part of a collective that can achieve great things. Two years earlier, I experienced the same feelings when I became a Canadian citizen myself.

~ Simone Stahel-Webster, roundtable host

I felt very welcomed to talk about how I felt about becoming a Canadian citizen. I enjoyed meeting new people and hearing about their experience of coming to Canada. I felt that the environment was a happy, energizing one as so many newcomers and their families and friends were there to share this joyful and special time.

~ Christina Campbell from Venezuela, became a new Canadian at the 2014 community ceremony



Embracing Home— The Past and the Present

Helena Emami moved to PEI from Iran in January 2015. “I was so excited about the snow,” she laughs. She joined her mother, Marziyeh (Marcia), and her two brothers, Mehrdad and Matin who have been living in Charlottetown for the past four years.

Helena embraced her new life with joy and optimism. Eager to get Canadian work experience, she participated in the PEI ANC’s Advanced Working in PEI workshop. She volunteered at many different community events. “I love meeting people,” she says, “and getting involved in the community helps me to learn more about Canadian culture.”

In March, Helena delivered an outstanding presentation about Iran to a class in the Tourism and Hospitality program at Holland College. She developed this presentation with assistance from the Multicultural Education Program (MEP). Helena’s presentation touched on history, politics, geography and culture in such a way that the audience felt transported to her birth

country. Several months later, when she was the emcee for DiverseCity Festival in Summerside, one of the students from that class gave her a big hug and said he loved her talk because “it came from the heart.”

Helena’s heart lies in education. She possesses two Masters’ degrees, one in Business Administration and the other in International Law. She left Iran because she wanted to live in a country which shares her values and where she can succeed to the best of her abilities. Helena feels it is important to speak to the community about her country and raise awareness about “who Iranians are,” especially as she is from the Middle East. “It is my chance to show Canadians that underneath, we are all human. We all have the same emotions.”

Helena feels a deep sense of gratitude for her new home: “I can breathe here. I feel peaceful, I have space to think, I can write. And so I ask myself, ‘how can I use my potential to add value here? What can I offer this Island?’” Cultural presentations like Helena’s are invaluable in helping to develop inclusive communities across PEI where both new and established Islanders can feel at home. ■



Helena (centre) surrounded by Holland College students

Multicultural Education Program (MEP)

MEP workers assist the established Island community in understanding unique newcomer needs. They deliver workshops and presentations on anti-discrimination, cultural competency, and diversity in the workplace and school system until recently. The goal is to ease cultural transition for newcomers by helping to foster a welcoming and understanding community.



REVIEWS OF MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

As we prepare for our fourth delivery of the Responsive Leadership for a Diverse Workplace Program, we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada’s Multicultural Education Program (MEP) employees for their role as subject matter experts. The Improving Cross Cultural Effectiveness session, in addition to being popular among attendees, is an extremely valuable component of Responsive Leadership. The cultural competency session is a natural fit for the program, where the overall goal is providing health care leaders with the attributes and knowledge necessary for championing a diverse workplace. Thank you for being a part of the Responsive Leadership’s success.

~ Crystal-Lynn O’Meara, CHRP, Executive Director, PEI Health Sector Council

Health professionals in today’s health care system treat clients using a Person Centered Care approach. This holistic approach encourages all staff, including RCWs, to get to know the client as a person, and then strive to understand and meet their needs. This includes becoming aware of client preferences, personal history, family members and cultural traditions. Being aware of the client’s cultural needs is part of being a caring, compassionate professional and competent RCW. The Holland College RCW Program is very fortunate to have the PEI ANC present yearly to its students on cultural awareness, and to offer strategies to help them become more culturally competent.



~ Jane MacPhee, Learning Manager, Resident Care Worker Program, Holland College

The Foods and Nutrition program at UPEI trains future dietitians, family life educators, and kinesiologists. All of our graduates will be working with culturally diverse clients, patients, groups and communities. Awareness of the impact of culture on professional and personal communication, and the need for strategies to obtain cultural competence, are essential components of several of our required courses. The education and outreach provided by the multicultural educators from PEI ANC are invaluable. Students have repeatedly commented that these sessions make them think about cultural issues and the importance of continuing to use a cultural lens when they enter the workforce. We are very lucky to have the PEI ANC as a resource.

~ Professor Jennifer Taylor, Foods and Nutrition program, Department of Human Sciences, Faculty of Science, UPEI



MEP statistics for the period September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015

		
School Presentations	95	2,552
Organization Presentations	40	1,237
DiverseCity Festivals	3	18,000+
	events	participants

This year DiverseCity added two hours to the front of the festival, and each location boasted special highlights unique to each area. In Charlottetown one new exhibit was the CARE Canada Emergency Relief Shelter set up on site. This educational display included the shelter itself and all the items that a person is given upon arrival in a refugee camp. There was also a booth with flower arranging artists who flew all the way from Japan at their own cost, just to participate in the festival!

ANC staff provide invaluable support prior to and on the ground during each festival. In addition, approximately one hundred volunteers—many of whom are newcomers themselves—make DiverseCity Festival possible. Together, under the able direction of Mark Carr-Rollitt and Hannah Jones, this team takes on the work of setting up, running, and taking down each outdoor festival within sixteen hours!

Attendance has risen steadily each year with the combined total for all three days now exceeding an estimated 18,000 people! Participants this year represented 51 different cultures which are part of the cultural fabric of the Island. Festival co-managers, Carr-Rollitt and Jones, stayed true to the original spirit of the DiverseCity Festival and to PEI ANC's mandate of "Bringing People and Communities Together," while adeptly handling the logistics of this complex tri-fold event.

DIVERSECITY Multicultural Festival **DIVERCITÉ** Festival multiculturel

Presented by:



Funded in part by:



CHARLOTTETOWN



MONTAGUE



SUMMERSIDE



PEI ANC's DiverseCity Festival celebrated its 9th year in Charlottetown, and its 2nd year in both Montague and Summerside. As in Charlottetown, the communities east and west have adopted DiverseCity as a vital part of their ongoing summertime community entertainment—Summer Days in Montague and the Lobster Festival in Summerside.

DiverseCity Festivals are the Island's signature multicultural events, celebrations of community, sharing, and the many cultures proud to call PEI home.



Community Appreciation Awards 2014 Winners: Mohamoud Jama - Individual Award, Courtney Melvin (Vanco Farms Ltd.) - Business Award, and Wayne Long (City of Charlottetown) - Organization Award

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARDS 2014

The PEI ANC Annual General Meeting of 2014 was held on October 27 and the Fifth Annual Appreciation Awards, as nominated and voted on by all of PEI ANC staff, were handed out to very deserving winners.

The *Individual Appreciation Award* went to Mohamoud Jama:

Mohamoud Jama has been an interpreter for the PEI ANC for the past six years. He is an incredible asset to the organization and has played an integral role in helping to welcome both new Arabic and Somali speaking families, and clients from all cultures. He is an active participant in creating an inclusive and welcoming community.

The *Business Appreciation Award* went to Vanco Farms:

Vanco Farms Ltd. of PEI employs many newcomer Permanent Residents as well as Temporary Foreign Workers. Through Office Manager, Courtney Melvin, who goes above and beyond for newcomers, Vanco supports employees. Vanco ensures all questions and concerns are answered, and they work to ease transition for their newcomer staff into Canadian culture and work climate.

The *Organization Appreciation Award* went to the City of Charlottetown:

The City of Charlottetown has demonstrated commitment to newcomers and the PEI ANC's work in multiple ways over the years: Wayne Long and Ron Atkinson work together with ANC's Community Outreach staff to help DiverseCity Festival grow each year; the City sponsors the Association's Christmas Open House; and whenever possible, newcomer representatives are asked to sit on various City organized committees. ■

Teaching English and Learning English Nicola Herinkova and Silvia Gigova

Originally from Ontario, Nicola Herinkova has her BA in Childhood Education and Development, and her B.Ed. She taught English in the Czech Republic and lived in Quebec City before moving to PEI with her husband (from the Czech Republic), and their two young daughters, Sofie and Lucie.

Nicola has been a volunteer since 2012 for the Community Connections Program (CCP) in the English-as-an-Additional-Language-Tutor Program (EAL). Over that time, she

has been matched one-on-one with three different newcomer women from China to improve their English skills. In May 2014, CCP staff asked Nicola if she would be willing to lead an English Conversation Circle at the Stratford Library. All her students ended up being from Eastern Europe and Silvia Gigova was one of these participants.

Silvia emigrated from Bulgaria in February, 2014 with her husband Roman Gigov, her daughter Valeria (now five), and her twin boys Adrian and Darian (now three). While her husband was busy as an engineer, working both on PEI and in Korea for a local company called Aspin Kemp, Silvia whose English was minimal, keenly felt the isolation of living in another culture and operating in a new language. When Silvia started coming to the Conversation Circle, she was hesitant to even try and express herself in English. She had also not felt comfortable to attend "mom and baby" groups offered at the Stratford Town Hall, or any other community events she saw advertised. She believed she would not be able to communicate when spoken to, and that it would just be an experience of embarrassment.



Nicola says, "It has been wonderful to meet Silvia and I am pleased with her progress, and even more so with her friendship. I enjoy tutoring and leading the conversation circle. I have been told that these classes help newcomers to adapt and adjust to being in Canada, as well as giving them an opportunity to practice their English. This is very important when you are learning a new language."

As a direct result of Nicola's mentorship, Silvia blossomed. Nicola and her children accompanied Silvia and her young ones to local play groups. They have become friends, and their children enjoy each other's company. It has made a world of difference to Silvia. Her English has improved and along with it, her confidence. "I was shy to speak with people," Silvia says. "Now I am more self-confident. Nicola helped me through this transition. She was very helpful, kind and thoughtful."

Just over a year later, Silvia is outgoing, comfortable in her community, and can often be seen out with her kids, enjoying activities in Stratford. Now, when Silvia is invited to an ANC Women's Group activity or other event, she herself responds to say, "I will be there!" ■

Sharing Cultures and Easing Cares

Irene Nicholson and Ambika Chhetri

Irene Nicholson has been a volunteer in the Community Integration Program (CIP) since 2009. She is currently a CIP match with Ambika Chhetri, a refugee newcomer from Bhutan who came to PEI with her family in July 2014.

Ambika's husband, Om Giri, is one of PEI ANC's interpreters and a mature student at Holland College. Ambika also has a 16 year old son who attends Colonel Gray. While her husband attended Holland College full-time, and her son was in school all day, Ambika felt lonely, and at times was sad. She called PEI ANC to enquire about a community match who might spend some time with her; someone to help her integrate into the community and alleviate her isolation. Enter her wonderful match, Irene Nicholson.

Irene has a lot of experience with the Community Inclusion Program, having previously been matched with three other women over five years. She also knows what it is like to "come from away." Irene is a member of the Upper Mohawk Nation in Ontario. Her grandfather was from the Sixth Nation Reserve and her grandmother was Oneida. Irene grew up in Woodstock, Ontario and moved to PEI in 1974 with her family who came to grow tobacco. She remembers the cruel comments directed at her mother, and the racism her family experienced.

While times have changed and our society is becoming more educated and inclusive, Irene feels a kinship to, and desires to help those who are new to PEI to feel more at home. Irene comes to Charlottetown from Vernon River to spend time with her matches. "I am



a people person and I love meeting new people. You find you have things in common. I knew what it was like to leave family behind and to miss them. I had to make new friends, figure out where everything was—it was hard and I am Canadian. I absolutely love this program. I am happy to be a CIP match to Ambika. To just be there to listen to her talk about her life, her culture, and her hopes," says Irene.

They are fast becoming the best of friends. Ambika has health concerns, but she is fun-loving and likes to get out and do activities when she can. She says, "Irene is my first Canadian friend. She helps me to drive away stress. When we talk together we laugh about the same things. Our styles are similar. There are no barriers." Ambika continues, "PEI ANC does a very good thing with this matching. People who are all alone and don't have family here, who don't know anyone, can talk to their match. Friends are important. You can share happiness and sorrow. We meet and have coffee at Timothy's World Coffee—they are so kind to sponsor matches to have a free drink there—and we have such a good time." ■

Community Connections Program Statistics

September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015

number of clients matched with an English-as-an-Additional-Language volunteer tutor	293
number of clients/families matched with Community Inclusion Program volunteers	73
number of people who attended monthly clothing drives	653
number of people who attended Citizenship classes	63
number of activities organized	87



BLACK ISLAND HISTORY CREATES ANTI-RACISM AWARENESS

For two weeks in October 2014, *Tales of the Old Stock* toured schools across PEI from Tignish to Georgetown, presenting to a total of 795 students in twelve schools. The play is set in present-day PEI with historical flashbacks. It sends a relevant anti-racism message, as well as exploring little-known Black Island history—from the earliest Black Islanders to recent African immigrants. The version of the play that toured the schools is a shorter, age-appropriate adaptation of a full-length play written by Ron Irving, Harry Baglole, and Scott Parsons.

Community Connections Program (CCP)

CCP is an outreach, community-building program that connects newcomers with local volunteers. The Community Inclusion Program introduces newcomers to an established Islander or family to informally assist them with understanding Canadian culture and connecting with the community. The English-as-an-Additional-Language (EAL) Tutor Program offers informal one-on-one language practice in the Confederation Centre Public Library. CCP also runs the Holiday Host program and the PEI ANC Women's and Men's Groups. It organizes community outreach events in which participants number in the thousands.

Singer-songwriter Scott Parsons composed the songs that are integral to the play. Nancy Clement, Community Outreach Facilitator, was a supporting musician for the play as well as being the staff person who set up a PEI ANC info-table at each school.

The DVD of the play and the songs, along with a Teacher's Guide are now part of the PEI Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's classroom learning materials for Grade 6 Social Studies and Grade 12 History curriculum. The PEI ANC was recognized as an important partner in this project prior to each performance. ■



L-R Nancy Clement, PEI ANC Community Outreach Facilitator and musician; Anthony Migiro, Actor; Ron Irving, Director, Nancy McLure, actor; and Scott Parsons, Musician-Actor

LEARN TO CAMP

One of the Community Connections Program's most popular annual activities is an overnight camping adventure in June at the Stanhope Campground, Prince Edward Island National Park. This event is designed for first time campers, and is part of Parks Canada's Learn to Camp program—a partnership with Mountain Equipment Co-op.

Newcomer participants learn basic camping skills, take part in fun interpretive activities, and discover a real camping experience while sleeping overnight in one of Canada's treasured places. Some of the activities include learning to crack open lobsters and shellfish; building a campfire and toasting marshmallows; learning Mi'Kmaq, Acadian and other Island history through interactive storytelling and songs; discovering the dunes ecosystem; and building elaborate sand castles with local artist, Maurice Bernard. PEI ANC handles registration and assists Parks Canada staff on the ground during the entirety of this unforgettable, truly Canadian experience. ■



”

It was great and we enjoyed a lot, especially my son. You did perfect and we had a great experience about camping for our first time in Canada! Anyway we really appreciate it and are thankful for all your group's efforts for making this wonderful time for us.

~

I really enjoyed the activity of Learn to Camp and it's really a wonderful experience for my whole family. You know what? When start the campfire, the paper is doing as good as kindling. We already started planning our camping during the summer vacation, and kids are so excited about that. I really appreciate PEIANC held this activity for us.

”

OPEN FARM DAY

In September 2014, the PEI Agriculture Awareness Committee organized Open Farm Day, and arranged for over 100 newcomers to visit Island farms across PEI.

PEI ANC clients visited six farms: Blueshank Farms, Pleasant Pork Farm, Matos Winery, Newman's Estate Winery, New Perth Farms, and Steerman's Quality Meats. ■



Sharing Knowledge to Improve Islanders Health Anja Salijević (Ališić)



Together with her parents, Anja Salijević (Ališić) immigrated to PEI as a refugee. After high school, she completed her education in the United States, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion and Education. She worked in the States within the non-profit world for several years, mostly in fundraising, until 2014 when she and her husband decided to move back to the island where Anja had grown up.

When Anja moved back to PEI she approached PEI ANC for assistance. Her Employment Counsellor, Dandan Wang, worked with her to first examine her credentials and build her resume. Anja says, "Dandan is a wonderful counsellor. She never gives up. She looked for possible opportunities for me, and suggested related careers as well."

Anja's credentials did not allow her to work in her field in Canada due to the occupation regulations. Dandan helped Anja assess her skills and develop a job search plan. Part of that plan included volunteering—a choice which led Anja to help out at several health

fairs, illustrating her knowledge and excellent people skills to staff at the Canadian Cancer Society.

Dandan suggested a Career Pathways Program which landed Anja a five-month term of work with the Canadian Cancer Society, PEI Division as a health promotion assistant. Anja was able finally to show her aptitude for work in health promotion. She has been hired for a second contract at the Cancer Society and her supervisor, Director of Community Programs, Holly Smith, says, "Anja is a pleasure to work with. She works in Support Services and Volunteer Management and she is fantastic at her job. She also chips in on other work as needed. She is a true team worker and her education, training, and personality, make her a real fit here."

Anja is so pleased to be utilizing her skills in health promotion and program coordination. She says, "So many people believed in me. I am so grateful to have found a job in my field contributing to this important local health organization." ■

Persistence and Hard Work

Yemi Olusoji



Yemi Olusoji in the reception of her workplace

Yemi Olusoji, her husband and three children (now 15, 14, and 7), arrived on PEI in March, 2013. She met with Employment Counsellor Lisa Chaisson at PEI ANC. Yemi is an accountant and quickly began working towards her CPA certification for Canada. Yemi received her Canadian certification in September 2013, and started looking for work in her field.

Lisa helped Yemi update and rework her resume for the Canadian market; she scanned job sites and mined her contacts for a suitable position for her. Yemi provided Lisa with updates on her progress. She conducted her own research and compiled an extensive list of accounting firms, and sent them all her resume. Lisa reviewed her cover letters, and Yemi attended a two-day Employment Workshop at PEI ANC to learn more about Canadian work culture. Yemi discovered that many companies on PEI use the program, Simply Accounting, so she signed up for a 16-week evening course at Holland College to improve her use of this program. She also applied for a “Letter in Good Standing” from the International Accounting Body, ACCA, and she took a law and tax course online. In this way Yemi proved to be an ideal employment client: proactive, diligent, and self-directed.

Still, despite both Yemi and Lisa’s best efforts, no volunteer placements or jobs were forthcoming. Yemi was understandably getting discouraged. Finally she was asked to interview for a position of bookkeeper for a local company. To assist her, Lisa arranged for a mock interview with PEI ANC’s own accounting person, Barry Ansems, as one of the interviewers. Lisa and Barry interviewed Yemi and recorded the interview. They worked with her to improve her answers

where necessary, and indicated where her strengths were evident. While Yemi was unsuccessful at being hired for that position, she had met Barry Ansems who was impressed with her, and he gave Lisa a contact to approach at Arsenault Best Cameron Ellis (ABCE) accounting firm.

After all of her hard work, Yemi was given an opportunity to interview with ABCE for an accounting technician position. With the approval of Skills PEI for the Employ PEI Program, she began working there in December 2014 on a six month contract. That contract was extended for two months, and then in early July of this year, the partners at the firm informed Yemi that she was ‘just too good at her job’ for them to let her go. She is now employed in a full-time permanent position, and says, “I couldn’t be happier. I am so grateful for the support from Lisa and from PEI ANC in helping to ease transition to Canada. Along with employment support, ANC helped with contacting schools for the children, and suggested integration activities for us. We are all settling in. I am so hopeful for the future.” ■

Making Connections

Shan Ying Wang and Torsten Kutterer

One of the greatest challenges for newcomers is to find that first job to gain Canadian work experience. The Enhanced Employability Essential Language Skills (EEELS) class that is offered at Holland College through its LINC program, for newcomers with Level 6 and above English skills, is instrumental in helping its students gain their first work placements in various companies and businesses. PEI ANC referred both Shan Ying Wang, who arrived on PEI in December, 2013, and Torsten Kutterer, who arrived in April, 2014, to the LINC program. It was there they became friends and gained their first Canadian work experiences.

A PNP client, Shan Ying’s obligations under the program were to open, buy or invest in a business. He discussed these options with his ANC Employment Counsellor, Etta Esler. As the owner of a factory in Ningbo, China, Shan Ying was advised by Etta to gain some Canadian work experience, before opening his own company. In July 2014 he opened Reito Industrial Products, Ltd. Reito creates precision castings from metal as well as plastics, mainly for furniture and the auto and construction industries.

In the fall of 2014, Shan Ying and Torsten met again in the Newcomer Entrepreneur program (NEP) offered by the PEI ANC in partnership with the PEI Connectors program. They studied the components of a business plan and received first-hand information from local experts on business topics. They made vital connections with other newcomers and established Islanders. Before moving to Canada, Kutterer had worked as sales and marketing manager of a family-run wine business in Germany. Shan Ying decided to hire Torsten to market his company.

Shan Ying emphasizes the importance of making connections. “If you are a newcomer you have to go out

and meet people. When I came to PEI, I went fishing, I played soccer, I volunteered. The more people you know the better.”

Torsten agrees. “Building a network is vital. Joining Holland College and taking a class like the EEELS class lets you meet people at once.” When Torsten and his wife, Anja, came to PEI, they signed up for Employment Services, volunteered for different community events, took Mandarin classes, and attended local concerts and PEI ANC events.

Both men feel the Island is an excellent place for Reito to grow, as there are numerous export opportunities and room for innovation. Shan Ying is looking to expand into North America, while Reito’s primary market is currently Germany—a decided asset in Torsten’s favour given his knowledge of the language and culture. “We have recently hired an established Islander, on contract, to enhance our work on Prince Edward Island,” says Shan Ying. “Things are starting to move in the right direction for Reito.” ■

Shan Ying Wang and Torsten Kutterer



ACCESS TO A GLOBAL WORKFORCE ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Jennifer Jeffrey, Employment Services Coordinator, works closely with employers across PEI to match qualified applicants to labour market needs. All the people shown below, and of course many other newcomers, are looking for work. If you are an employer who would like to find out how qualified newcomers can help your business succeed, contact Jennifer at 902-628-6009 or email employment@peianc.com.



EDUCATED. EXPERIENCED. READY FOR WORK.

EAS statistics for the period September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015



Employment Assistance Services (EAS)

EAS Employment Counsellors assist newcomers with their job searches by assessing employment backgrounds and exploring options for clients' career goals in Canada.

This may include identifying or assisting with: resume writing, job interview preparation, job search skills, self-employment options, and identifying foreign credential recognition pathways, post-secondary training, or volunteer opportunities. Employment Counsellors offer one-on-one employment support as well as group workshops.

A PNP Business: The Chinese Grocery Nan Chen



"As a newcomer, when I first arrived, I did not know what to do," says Nan. "Dandan Wang, my Employment Counsellor at Newcomers Association helped to reorganize my resume, and showed me useful websites such as the Job Bank. We investigated companies on PEI that were in my industry, like Sun Life Financial. My English is good, so I took interpreter training and I do that for the PEI ANC. I also participated in the Employment Workshop offered by ANC on Canadian workplace culture. I studied for two months for an exam to upgrade my insurance credentials to Canadian ones. Now I am an insurance agent in a pre-contract program with Sun Life.

Living on PEI exceeds my expectations. It is not a big place, but I like that. I love the clean air and the friendly people. The weather is so nice, even though the snow was so deep last year! I went to DiverseCity Festival and was so impressed and surprised with how big it was, and how much fun. My parents were visiting and they were amazed that this festival was on a tiny island. We went to the Summerside festival also.

As a PNP client, I had a short time to invest in a business, buy, or start a business. In China my husband was a General Insurance Re-insurance agent. Neither of us had experience in retail but we did know the products Chinese like to eat and cook. I saw there was a Chinese specialty store for sale and we purchased it.

Immigrants can adapt to change, but everyone likes to eat the food and dishes they grew up eating in their homes!”

Dandan Wang says, “Nan is a smart and skilled young woman. She attended the Alternate Career Event organized here at the Association to look at new careers. She also obtained her license to sell insurance in Canada. Just this August, Nan opened her own business with her husband Zihui Tong—the Chinese Grocery at 237 University Avenue in Charlottetown. I believe Nan has the ability to attain her dreams.”

Chen goes on with her story. “There are several Asian food stores here. But competition is ok! We want to build something that is good for customers. Island people know of some Chinese products that they like, and they come in and shop too. If our store provides products for Chinese Islanders so they can buy what they need right here, maybe they will stay and help this Island. This is a sort of obligation we have, to be part of helping PEI, our new home, prosper.” ■

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF IEHP: INTRODUCING THE LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

The ten-year Health Canada commitment to funding support for internationally educated health professionals (IEHPs) draws to a close in early 2016; and so too will the IEHP project at the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada.

It is a time of completion, reflection, and celebration. The IEHP program began with 40 clients and a course designed for health professionals. It has grown into a network of 760 volunteers and stakeholders providing community support across PEI for over 350 IEHPs and their families, as well as for 430 other newcomer clients in rural areas. Primarily through Melanie Bailey, Carrie MacLean, and Belinda Woods, PEI ANC has organized three Retention and Integration Committees for

Health (RICH) across rural PEI, five in-kind community-based offices within municipalities, three community-based Navigators, ten focus groups and hundreds of community consultations, a PEI-wide conference this past year, a leadership course for community leaders, physician orientations and receptions, and many multicultural events!

PEI ANC has seen an exponential increase in the integration and retention of IEHPs through Health Canada’s funding, municipal support, and the programs and services that were established across PEI through the IEHP Program. Where once retention of IEHPs on PEI was around 30%, it is now in the 85% range. Starting in April of 2016, PEI ANC will maintain support for IEHPs and their families through regular programs.

PEI ANC has also secured some interim funding from Citizenship and Immigration (CIC) to develop a Provincial Immigration Partnership under CIC’s. In brief, LIPs support the development of local multi-sectoral partnerships to integrate newcomer needs into municipal planning. They present integration of newcomers to Canada as a two-way street approach which both newcomers and members of the host community viewed as equal and important to creating real and lasting changes in attitude, and welcoming, functional communities.

Melanie Bailey, who has been working as the IEHP Supervisor, will move into the LIP position to continue building these partnerships. ■



PEI ANC partnered with the Town of Alberton’s Multicultural Festival in 2015

HIGHLIGHTS FROM WEBSITE STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2015

In August 2015 the PEI ANC website had 20,580 unique visitors. There were 669 visitors who stayed on the website for longer than half an hour.

The top ten visitor source countries and the respective number of page views were:

- Germany - 41,146
- Canada - 14,833
- United States - 5,958
- China - 4,898
- Iran - 3,066
- Saudi Arabia - 2,417
- Great Britain - 1,911
- Mexico - 1,513
- Algeria - 1,477
- Egypt - 1,407

The top five visited pages and respective number of views were:

- Guide - Canadian Citizenship - 4,643
- Guide - Welcome to PEI - 728
- Guide - Applying for a Job - 599
- Guide - Culture and Social Life - 594
- Guide - Canadian Tax System - 572

The top search key phrases were (phrases used by visitors in search engines when they found PEI ANC website):

- Prince Edward Island, Canada (in Mandarin)
- Canadian Citizenship (in Arabic)
- financial aid (in Persian)
- Canadian tax system (in Persian)
- how to post a letter (in English)
- low income assistance (in Korean)
- PEI Association for Newcomers (in Mandarin)
- Canadian Citizenship (in Korean)

ONLINE GUIDE FOR NEWCOMERS TO CANADA

In our online Guide, newcomers access essential information needed to settle in PEI.

These include: first things to do upon arrival; how to obtain essential Canadian documents; information for parents, and information about finances, housing, food and shopping, transportation, health, education, employment, law and order, culture and social life, and citizenship.

The Guide, as well as the entire website, is available in seven languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Persian, Mandarin and Korean.



CONNECT WITH PEI ANC THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/peinewcomers



twitter.com/PEIANC



youtube.com/PEInewcomers

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW — FISCAL YEAR (APRIL 1, 2014 - MARCH 31, 2015)

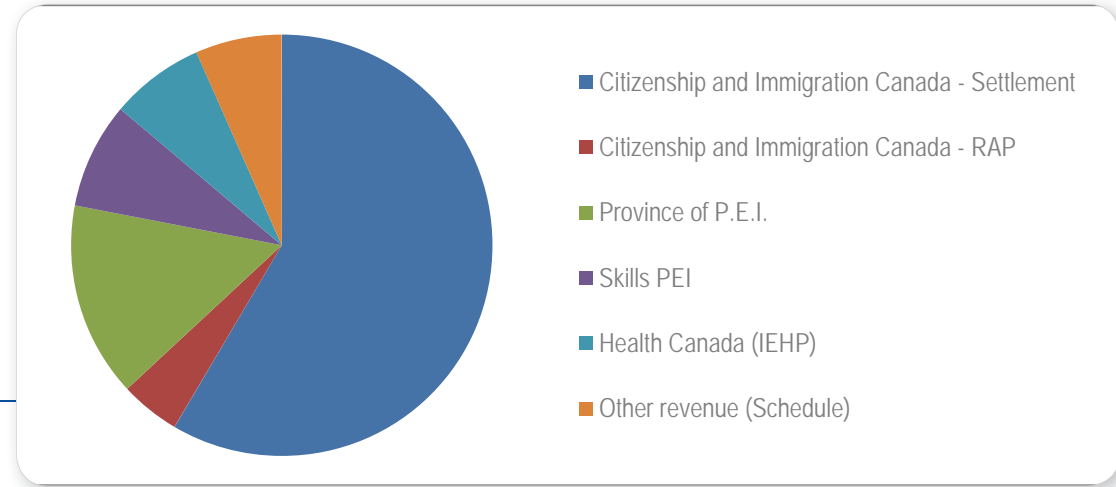
The PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada employs 34 full-time and 5 part-time positions, as well as 58 contractors to provide language-based services (47 Interpreters, 8 translators for website and other documents, and 3 language assessors).

In addition to the funding for our primary service programs, we have applied for and received another 4.1% in funding (see Other Revenue) to suit additional client needs or special projects such as seniors' programs. 99% of funds were spent on PEI in program activities and supplies, services, costs related to premises rental, and salaries.

Many of PEI ANC's staff are newcomers to Canada themselves, or their families were newcomers. The PEI ANC also uses newcomer caterers as much as possible to provide food for events, and hires newcomers for performance at DiverseCity Festivals and others.

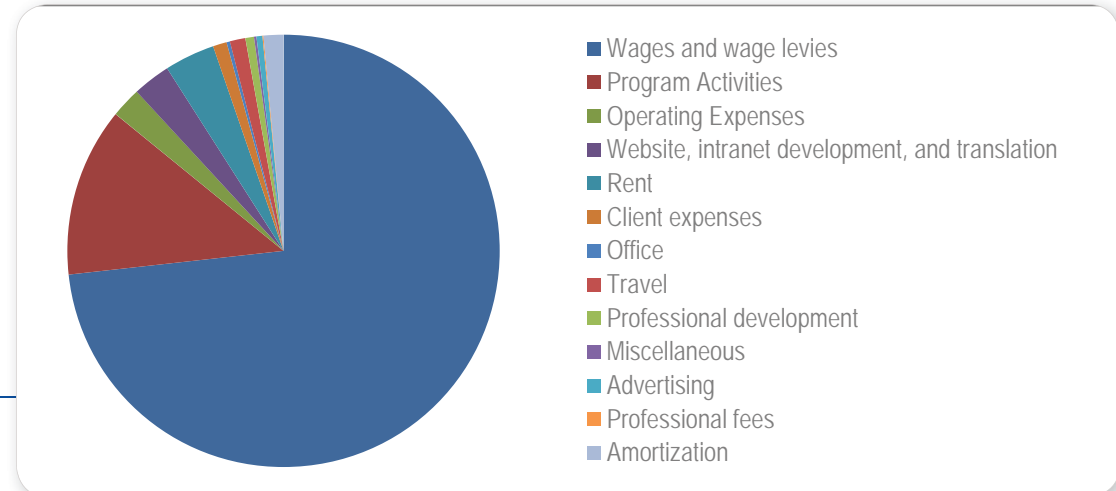
Revenue

	2014-2015	2013-2014
Citizenship and Immigration Canada - Settlement	1,583,751	1,480,419
Citizenship and Immigration Canada - RAP	124,196	105,376
Province of Prince Edward Island	404,968	388,995
Skills PEI	219,887	222,791
Health Canada (IEHP)	195,151	187,000
Other revenue (Schedule)	179,765	103,381
Total	2,707,718	2,518,480



Expenses

	2014-2015	2013-2014
Wages and wage levies	1,982,010	1,848,793
Program Activities	342,156	263,200
Operating Expenses	61,392	57,651
Website, intranet development, and translation	76,094	87,584
Rent	101,625	101,894
Client expenses	28,106	19,033
Office	7,054	14,115
Travel	31,320	33,849
Professional development	17,345	27,607
Miscellaneous	4,947	3,257
Advertising	12,052	18,974
Professional fees	2,220	2,170
Amortization	39,967	26,446
Total	2,706,288	2,504,573



	2014-2015	2013-2014
Excess of revenue over expenses	1,430	13,907

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Federal
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada
 Health Canada
 Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)
 Canadian Heritage and Official Languages</p> <p>Province of Prince Edward Island
 Government of Prince Edward Island
 Health PEI
 Island Investment Development Inc.
 Office of Recruitment and Settlement
 Prince Edward Island 2014, Inc.
 PEI Public Health
 PEI Public Service Commission
 Skills PEI</p> <p>Municipal
 City of Charlottetown
 City of Summerside
 Town of Alberton
 Town of Cornwall
 Town of Montague</p> | <p>Town of O'Leary
 Town of Souris
 Town of Stratford</p> <p>Grants and Donations
 Atlantic Lottery
 Brown's Volkswagen
 Canadian Linen and Uniform Service
 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)
 Charlottetown Tourism Accommodation Levy
 CIBC Community Investment
 Confederation Centre of the Arts
 Confederation Court Mall
 Credit Union Provincial
 Downtown Charlottetown
 EnjoyPEI
 Girls' Action Foundation
 Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce
 Great Enlightenment Buddhist Institute Society
 Health Care Human Resource Sector Council</p> | <p>Invesco
 Island Investment Development Inc.
 Justice Options for Women
 Kings County Chrysler Ltd.
 Kinsmen Video
 Kwik Kopy Printing
 La Coopérative d'intégration francophone
 Loblaw's
 Maritime Electric
 McInnes Cooper
 Montague Summer Days Festival
 PEI Public Service Commission
 Provincial Credit Union Ltd.
 Queen Street Co-op Food Market
 RBC Royal Bank
 RDÉE Île-du-Prince-Édouard Inc.
 Special Events Reserve Fund (SERF)
 Summerside Lobster Festival
 Summerside Y Service Club
 YMCA of Greater Toronto</p> |
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Special thanks to the many clients who were interviewed and photographed for the 2015 Annual Report. Your stories are inspirational and show in a tangible way the true benefits immigration brings to PEI.

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