



CITY OF SURREY: Municipal Leadership in Immigrant Settlement & Integration

Pathways to Prosperity Conference. December 1 2015



SURREY
LOCAL IMMIGRATION
PARTNERSHIP

Funded by:

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Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

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OVERVIEW

- Context
- Different Roles
 - Service Provider
 - Advocate
 - Leader
 - Convener
- Surrey LIP Impact on the City
- Our Learnings



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SURREY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

- 515,000 people
- Unique geography
- Housing affordability/
Transportation



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IMMIGRANTS & SURREY

- 41% are immigrants
- 1 in 5 speaks Punjabi
- 25% of all Government Assisted Refugees (GARs) coming to B.C. have settled in Surrey (2010-2015)



THE CITY: SERVICE PROVIDER

- Libraries:
 - Multi-lingual resources
 - Employment Workshops
 - Free English Conversation Circles
- Parks and Recreation:
 - Bus Tours for Newcomers
 - Settlement Services in Community Centres
 - Refugee Volunteer Pilot Program
- RCMP
 - Community Outreach



**Diversity Coordinators at all
three departments**

THE CITY: ADVOCATE

- Medical and Transportation loan to GARs
- 2009: a Resolution to the Union of BC Municipalities
- 2014: The City has initiated a petition to cancel outstanding GAR transportation loan debt



Councillor Villeneuve

THE CITY: LEADER

- Surrey Welcoming Communities Project (2012-2014)
 - City: Contract holder
 - Multiple Projects
- Surrey LIP (2014-2016)
 - City: Contract holder
 - Coordinate activities
 - Develop Immigrant & Refugee Settlement Strategies



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New City Hall

SURREY LIP AT A GLANCE

- Co-led by Councillor Villeneuve and CEO of Surrey Board of Trade
- 30 member LIP Committee
- Immigrant Advisory Roundtable, 18 members



**Members of the Surrey IAR
at the first meeting**

SURREY LIP & ITS IMPACT

- The City Role
- Better informed staff
- Community Capacity



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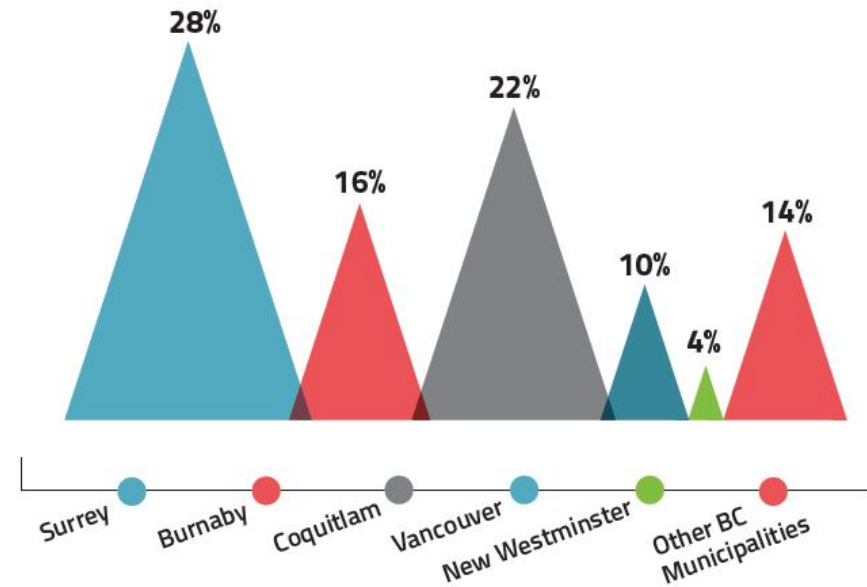
Welcome to Surrey Centre Block Party

THE CITY: CONVENER

- Syrian Refugee Crisis
- Up to 800 GARs may arrive in Surrey
- Coordinated community response

Government Assisted Refugees destined to B.C. by municipality, 2010 to 2013

Source: ISSofBC



Note: 6% are reported as Outside B.C.



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KEY LEARNINGS

- Senior Leadership
- Communication Materials
- City staff position
- Challenges: Leader vs. Convener roles



THANK YOU!
www.SurreyLIP.ca

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