



Fostering a Healthy and Engaged City for Newcomers

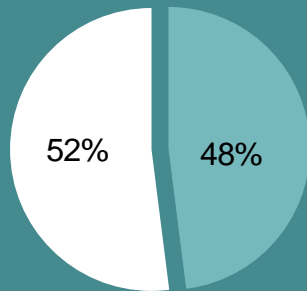
Vancouver Immigration Partnership/
City of Vancouver

Pathways to Prosperity
Conference
December 2016

Vancouver's Immigrant Population

foreign born

48% of Vancouver residents were born outside of Canada



language



8%

of population

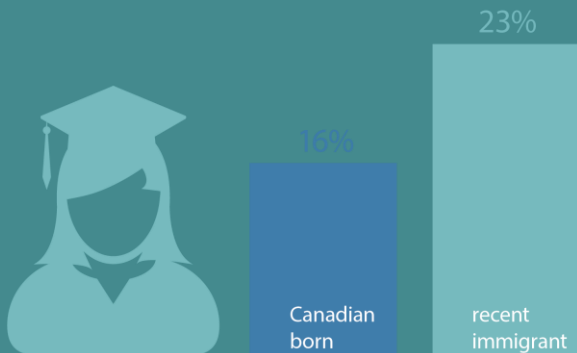
46,000

people in Vancouver

cannot converse in English or French

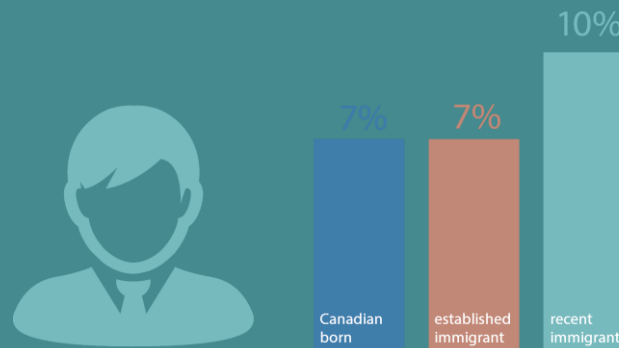
education

EDUCATION ABOVE BACHELOR'S DEGREE



unemployment

Recent immigrants experience higher unemployment rate than established immigrants and Canadian born individuals.



Source: 2011 National Household Survey, Statistics Canada

Note: Recent immigrants are people born outside of Canada who immigrated to Canada between 2006-2011

THE CITY OF VANCOUVER IS:

- 1. Building on a Strong Foundation**
- 2. Increasing Access to City information, services and programs**
- 3. Supporting Social and Cultural Development**
- 4. Providing Financial Support**
- 5. Building Facilities**
- 6. Optimizing Strategic Partnerships**
- 7. Strategic Policy Directions**
- 8. Convening the Vancouver Immigration Partnership**

BUILDING ON A STRONG FOUNDATION

- City's Multicultural Relations Policy
- Hastings Institute/Equal Employment Office
- City's Mentorship Program
- Cultural Communities Advisory Committee
- Mayor's Working Group on Immigration, 2005-present



INCREASING ACCESS

- Published Newcomer's Guides
- 311 Information and Referral Services – language access
- Leisure Access Program – for low income families/individuals
- Doors Open Vancouver
- Pop Up City Hall
- Engaged City Task Force Report



Pop-Up City Hall

VISITED OVER

50 LOCATIONS

AND HAD

OVER 8,600 INTERACTIONS

IN ENGLISH, CANTONESE,
MANDARIN, PUNJABI,
TAGALOG AND VIETNAMESE

SUPPORTING SOCIAL and CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Community needs assessment
- Social research
- Arts and cultural development projects
- Awards and annual commemorative events



PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Community Services Grants
 - organizational, neighborhood houses, food, social enterprise, social innovation
- Childcare Grants
- Green Grants
- Social Infrastructure Grants
- Cultural Grants



BUILDING FACILITIES

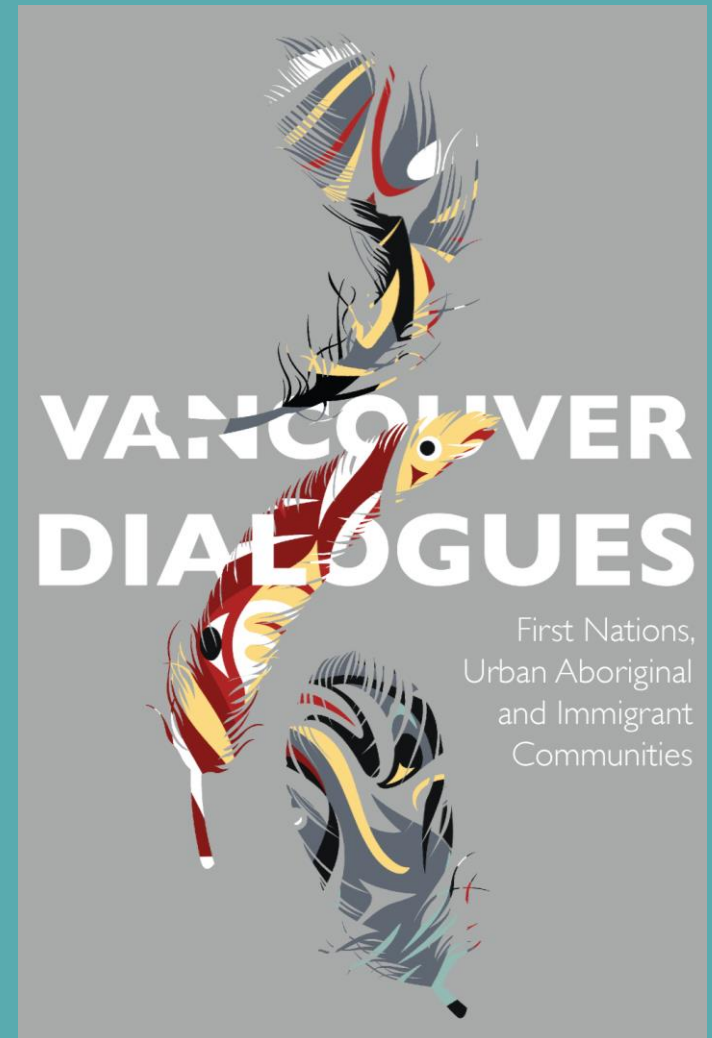
- Community Amenities Contributions (CAC) Capital Plan – supports capital projects such as neighborhood houses, family places, immigrant service agencies
- Supportive housing



ISSofBC - Welcome House for Refugees

OPTIMIZING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- Federal; Provincial Governments
- Foundations; United Way
- Business (BIAs, Board of Trade & others)
- Universities: research/internships
- Community initiatives
- First Nations
- Healthy City Strategy
- Vancouver Immigration Partnership



SUPPORTING STRATEGIC POLICIES & PLANS

- Healthy City
- Engaged City Task Force Report
- City of Reconciliation



Vancouver Immigration Partnership:

1. Welcoming Communities Program to LIP
2. LIP Overview
3. Strategy Highlights
4. Next Steps



FROM WCP to VIP



Context (cont'd):

In April 2014, Council approved for staff to sign a contribution agreement with the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to undertake a Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Initiative.



Context

The New Start Strategy corresponds to the Healthy City Strategy goals of:

- access to human services
- making ends meet
- feeling connected and included
- collaborative leadership



Context (cont'd):

The Mayor's Working Group on Immigration (MWGI), co-chaired by Councilor Geoff Meggs and Professor Dan Hiebert, oversees the project, and the Strategy development is guided by the MWGI Vision and Value Statement :

- Cities are playing an increasingly important role in advocating for the inclusion of newcomers;
- The goal of inclusion is consistent with the City's commitment to reconciliation by honoring and valuing the role of First Nations;
- Vancouver is proud of its cultural diversity and is committed to fostering an open, welcoming and safe environment to people of all cultural backgrounds.

VIP's Approach (Cont'd):

120

*Partners invited
from seventy two
organizations*

4

Theme Areas

28

*Priority Actions to
address needs**

** Plus other actions for consideration*

VIP's Approach (Cont'd):

New Start Strategy's Four Theme Areas:

**Access to
Services**

**Intercultural
and Civic
Engagement**

**Welcoming
and Inclusive
Workplaces**

**Governments
and Public
Institutions
Addressing
Needs**

New Start Strategy's Priority Actions Highlights



Access to Services Priority Actions



- **Mapping and assessing key service systems which support immigrant settlement and integration;**
- **Enhance collaboration between immigrant serving and broad-based community service organizations;**
- **Propose public awareness campaigns to promote newcomers' services;**
- **Recommend initiatives to enhance ESL learning opportunities.**

Intercultural and Civic Engagement Priority Actions



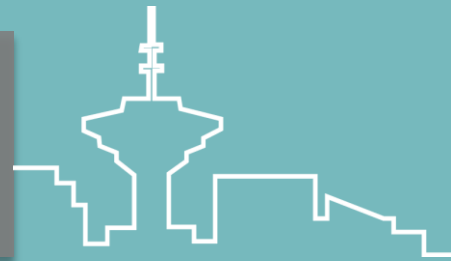
- **Develop Initiatives to engage immigrants with long-time residents including First Nations;**
- **Build on initiatives recommended by the Engaged City's Task Force and Canada 150;**
- **Continue the City's work on reconciliation and addressing historical injustices;**
- **Conduct inter-community dialogues involving youth and other groups.**

Welcoming and Inclusive Workplaces Priority Actions



- **Conduct an employer's survey;**
- **Build on the Healthy City Strategy's recommendations on social procurement;**
- **Assess and recommend sectoral mentorship programs;**
- **Convene networking events with business, employers and skilled immigrant professionals.**

Government and Public Institutions Addressing Needs Priority Actions



- **Create a data and information sharing structure among key stakeholder groups;**
- **Identify a collaborative leadership model that advocates and promotes the well-being of immigrants and refugees at a systemic level. E.g. by working with other cities and local LIPs**



Together,
WE
STRENGTHEN
each other.

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