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# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

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MOOSE  
JAW

MULTICULTURAL  
COUNCIL INC.



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# THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS



IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES, AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA

MINISTRY OF IMMIGRATION AND CAREER TRAINING

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CANADIAN RED CROSS - COMMUNITY SERVICES RECOVERY FUND

DONATIONS

SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITY

FOUNDATION - MOFFATT FAMILY FUND

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND

SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT INSURANCE (SGI)

CANADIAN WOMEN AND SPORT

CANADIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL OF SASKATCHEWAN

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT FOR CULTURE RECREATION AND SPORTS - SASK LOTTERIES TRUST

FUND

RBC - ROYAL BANK

SISAG



## 2023-2024 MEMBERS: INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

- Nema Atsu
- Joseph Haleli
- Brooke Meili
- Albulena Morina
- Vivian Gauvin
- Temitope Adewumi
- Andrea Klassen
- Janelle Schiml
- Hanife Zymberi
- Moose Jaw Chinese Community Network



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Reflecting on my final year serving as president of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, I'm deeply proud of the strides we've made in assisting newcomers with settlement services, fostering community connections, and providing language classes. Our commitment to settlement services has been unwavering, offering crucial support to individuals and families as they navigate the challenges of adapting to a new environment. Through our efforts, we've helped newcomers find housing, employment, healthcare, and other essential resources, empowering them to build a brighter future in Moose Jaw.



Our dedication to fostering community connections has been equally impactful, bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to forge friendships, share experiences, and celebrate our shared humanity. By organizing cultural events, workshops, and social gatherings, we've created spaces where residents can learn from one another, break down barriers, and build a more inclusive community. Additionally, our language classes have played a vital role in equipping newcomers with the linguistic skills they need to thrive in their new surroundings. Our classes have provided invaluable support, enabling individuals to communicate more effectively, access services, and participate more fully in community life.

As I step down from my role, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve alongside such dedicated individuals and proud of all that we have accomplished together. While my time as president may be ending, I am confident that the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council will continue to be a beacon of hope, support, and opportunity for newcomers and residents alike. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this journey, and I look forward to seeing the council's continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

*Albulena Morina*

## 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Albulena Morina - President  
Janelle Schiml - Vice President  
Hanife Zymberi - Treasurer  
Nema Atsu - Secretary  
Brooke Meili - Director  
Joseph Haleli - Director  
Andrea Klassen - Director  
Vivian Gauvin - Director  
Temitope Adewumi - Director



# MESSAGE FROM OUR PAST AND CURRENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



As I pen this message, I find myself reflecting on the journey we've embarked upon together. It is with a mix of emotions that I announced my departure from the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council effective April 19, 2024, after 16.5 years of dedicated service as the Executive Director. While it is difficult to bid farewell to such a passionate and dedicated team, I am filled with immense pride for all that we have accomplished together during my tenure, including what is being presented to you in this annual report.

Our collective efforts have enabled us to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve. Together, we have tackled challenges, celebrated victories, and forged lasting connections within our community. It has been a privilege to lead this organization and witness the unwavering commitment of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. Our collective efforts have enabled us to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve. Together, we have tackled challenges, celebrated victories, and forged lasting connections within our community. It has been a privilege to lead this organization and witness the unwavering commitment of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. As the torch has now been passed to my successor, Jaella Wiebe, I am confident in her skills to be able to continue to foster the positive culture and highest level of service that MJMC has come to be known for. The foundations that have been built over the 50 years MJMC has been an organization provide a solid framework for continued growth and success. I have every confidence that under Jaella's leadership and with the dedication of the most fabulous team of individuals, the organization will thrive and continue to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals.

I extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has been a part of this journey – staff, board members, volunteers, funders, and community partners alike. Your partnership, friendship, collaborative spirit, and unwavering support have been the driving force behind MJMC's achievements. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Executive Director. I look forward to seeing the continued impact of MJMC in the years to come.

Warm Regards

*Stefanie Palmer*

Firstly, I would like to thank Stefanie for all her hard work and everything she did to improve and strengthen MJMC over the last 16.5 years. Looking back at the last decade and a half of annual reports, it is easy to see her influence and the progress made at the organization. It is very large shoes I am following in, and I thank the support and guidance that she has shown me the last 11 years since starting at MJMC. Without it I do not think I would have the skills to take over the Executive Director position. You will be missed!



That being said, I would like to present the last Annual Report of Stefanie's tenure and the first of mine. Like any year, this one has come with a lot of successes and challenges, all of which were handled by our amazing staff, volunteers, and community partners. None of the accomplishments in this report would have been possible without their tremendous work and dedication to helping newcomers. With the increase of immigration Canada-wide, we have seen the effect in our organization reflected in significant increased in numbers

and services over the last year. This has also involved hiring more staff to respond to the needs, including more evening language classes, additional employment supports, and increases in staff supporting the resettlement of Refugees.

Staff continue to work hard to re-connect with, engage, and strengthen relationships with our community partnerships to provided newcomers with more integrated community supports. These relationships are essential for being able to provide our services and connect newcomers to the community, creating a more cohesive and diverse community. Each year, Moose Jaw amazes me with the collaborative spirit and supports the entire community provides. This unique quality makes the work we all do worth it.

Finally, I would like to thank all our funders and supporters including Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada, the Government of Saskatchewan Ministries of Immigration and Career Training, Education, and Social Services, Red Cross - Community Services Recovery Fund, as well as the various community foundations and donors on our funding page. We could not do any of this work without your support and belief in us.

Sincerely,

*Jaella Wiebe*

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Brazilian Elite Sport Academy
- Briercreech College
- Calvin Thomas Driving School
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Carlton Trail College
- CCRW
- City of Moose Jaw
- City of Moose Jaw - Recreation Department
- City of Moose Jaw Youth Advisory Council
- Collège Mathieu
- Community Based Coalition
- Conference Board of Canada
- Conseil des écoles fransaskoises
- Conseil économique et coopératif de la Saskatchewan
- Covid Community Response
- Creative Kids
- Crescent Park Retirement Village
- Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee (City of Moose Jaw)
- Dr. F. H. Wigmore Regional Hospital
- East-Central Sask LIP (Yorkton)
- Golden West Media/ Discover Moose Jaw
- Hillcrest Apostolic Church
- Holy Trinity Catholic School Division (HTCSD)
- Humboldt Region LIP
- Hunger in Moose Jaw
- Hunter's Paradise Farming & Outfitting (Mossbank)
- Immigration Partnership Saskatoon
- International Women's Society
- IRCC
- John Howard Society of Saskatchewan
- Jumpstart
- KidsFirst
- KidSport
- Kim's Tae Kwon Do
- Kinsmen Sportsplex & Phyllis Dewar Pool
- Kliniek on Main
- Labour Market Services
- LARC
- MCIS - Language Solutions
- MJMC - Community Connections, Settlement, LINC & Language, NWC, SWIS
- Moose Jaw and District Chamber of Commerce
- Moose Jaw and District Food Bank
- Moose Jaw Chinese Association
- Moose Jaw Cultural Action Plan Steering Committee (City of Moose Jaw)
- Moose Jaw Cultural Centre
- Moose Jaw Family Services
- Moose Jaw Fire Department
- Moose Jaw Housing Authority
- Moose Jaw Literacy Network
- Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery
- Moose Jaw Police Service
- Moose Jaw Public Library
- Moose Jaw RCMP
- Moose Jaw Right for Life
- Moose Jaw Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)
- Moose Jaw Soccer Association
- Moose Jaw Transition House
- Moose Land Immigration Services
- Moose Multimedia
- Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan
- National LIP Secretariat
- North 49 Foods
- Palliser Regional Library
- Partners Against Violence
- Prairie South School Division 210
- Providence Place
- Province of Saskatchewan
- Regina Region Local Immigration Partnership
- Réseau en immigration francophone de la Saskatchewan (RIF-SK)
- Residents Against Discrimination and Racism (RADAR)
- Ringette Saskatchewan
- Rural Development Network
- Salvation Army
- Saskatchewan Association for Immigrant Settlement and Integration Agencies (SAISIA)
- Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation (SCIC) Regina
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI)
- Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA)
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Education
- Saskatchewan Polytechnic
- Sasktel
- Services d'accueil et d'inclusion francophone-SK, Saif-sk
- Simpson Seeds
- South Sask Ready
- South Saskatchewan Food Security Network
- South West District for Culture, Recreation, & Sport Inc.
- Southeast College
- Southwest Saskatchewan Immigration Partnership
- SUMA (formerly Municipalities of Sask)
- Town of Coronach
- Town of Gravelbourg
- Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Saskatchewan
- Ukraine Help and Exchange in Moose Jaw
- University of Regina
- Wakamow Aboriginal Community Association
- Wakamow Valley Authority
- Welcoming Francophone Communities (ACF)
- WrapCap - Centre for Newcomers, Calgary
- Zion United Church



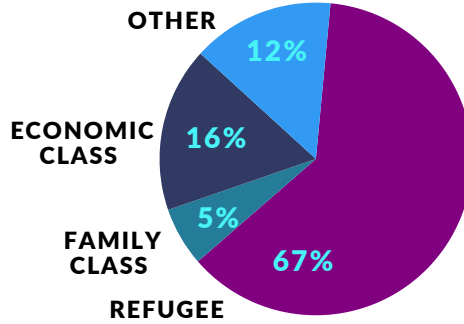
# SETTLEMENT SERVICES

## TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN\*

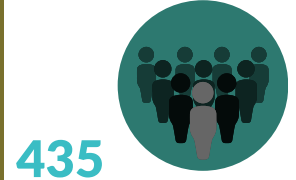
- DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - UKRAINE - SYRIA - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SUDAN - ERITREA - ETHIOPIA - UGANDA - CHINA - RWANDA - TANZANIA -

\*PERMANENT RESIDENT CLIENTS

## IMMIGRATION CATEGORY



## PERMANENT RESIDENTS SERVED



200 NEEDS ASSESSMENTS DELIVERED



2646 INFORMATION & ORIENTATION SERVICES



## NEEDS ASSESSMENTS & REFERRALS

When clients first come to MJMC, the very first service that they will receive is a needs assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to determine what their specific needs are and refer them to the services that can help them meet these needs. The Settlement Worker and client work together to come up with a realistic plan that will set the client on a path toward successful settlement in the Moose Jaw area.

## RETURNING CLIENTS



## NEW CLIENTS

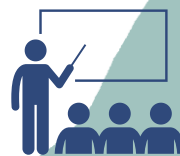
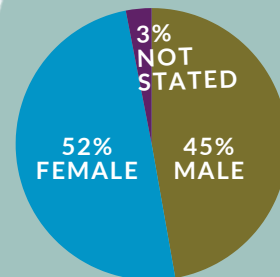


## INFORMATION & ORIENTATION

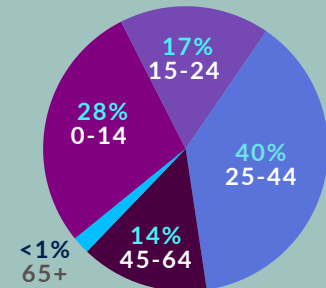
The primary role of a Settlement Worker is to provide information and orientation for the purpose of encouraging clients to work toward becoming successful independent members of the community. To achieve this goal, MJMC offers several individual and group orientations throughout the year. The topics of the orientations will depend on the specific needs of the clients. Some examples include: Canadian culture, healthcare, banking, laws and policing, taxes, government programs and services, life-skills training, winter safety, the Canadian school system, and much more.



## GENDER



40 GROUP INFORMATION & ORIENTATION SESSIONS



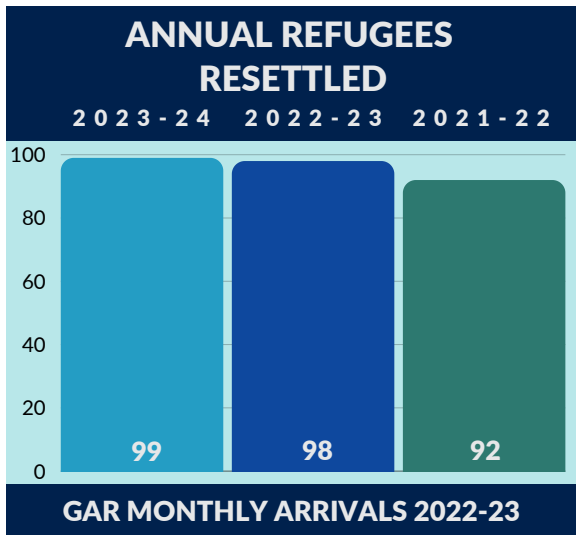
## AGE



# SETTLEMENT SERVICES

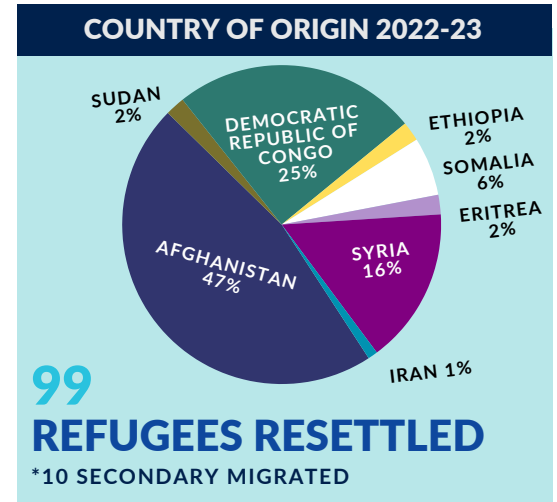
## RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) is designed to assist Government-Assisted Refugees (GARs) in resettling to their new community in Canada. The process involves the following services: airport reception, setting up temporary and, later, permanent accommodations, settlement planning, and a variety of orientations to Canada including financial, community, housing, and more.



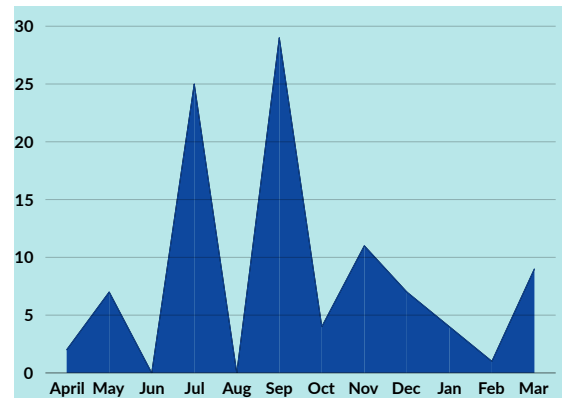
## ENHANCED LIFE-SKILLS PROGRAM

This program is designed to further support Case Management clients who require one-on-one orientations and additional information to ensure a successful settlement. The Enhanced Life Skills program offers more intensive and targeted information sessions for Case Management groups and individuals. The purpose is to provide them with the necessary life skills to successfully navigate and integrate into Canadian society. This is especially directed to those who have limited knowledge of Western lifestyle due to a prolonged stay in a refugee camp or familiarity with home country systems that are significantly different from those of Canada. Common orientations include: banking, budgeting, personal health and safety, hygiene practices, household maintenance, public transportation, shopping, individual rights and responsibilities, and much more.



## CASE MANAGEMENT

The Case Management program is for individuals who require extra support due to high needs or stressful circumstances that have arisen during the settlement process. Staff provide this support in various ways, such as: helping clients navigate complex medical needs, assisting clients who need to access emergency community supports, coordinating with other community groups involved with the clients, and managing frequent contact and follow-ups with clients to ensure that all their needs are being met.

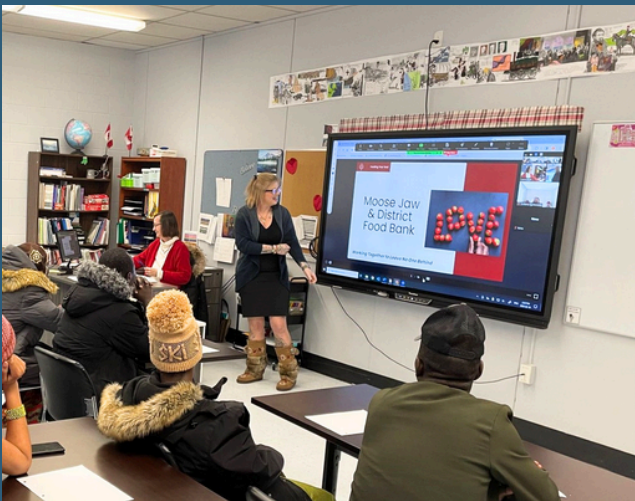


# AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT INITIATIVE

MJMC took part in the Government of Canada's commitment to resettle more than 40,000 Afghan refugees by welcoming 54 individuals to our community via the RAP program. RAP staff across Canada were then recognized by Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Marc Miller for this feat. The implementation of group flights chartered by IRCC for the initiative resulted in many new challenges for the RAP team and our community. For the first time, RAP staff were able to meet clients immediately at the Port of Entry and assisting other organizations with services and logistics. The large size of arrivals forced RAP staff to implement novel and creative ways to deliver services that were previously designed for single families. This resulted in a plethora of new and streamlined processes, procedures, and partnerships that have enhanced all RAP services since implementation.



## FOOD BANK ORIENTATION



The Settlement Department partnered on an orientation series with Moose Jaw and District Food Bank (MJDFB). Chantealle Fisher presented on the services provided by the MJDFB to several newcomer groups including LINC classes, newly arrived RAP clients, and other clients of MJMC. The Food Bank had identified that many more newcomers had been accessing their services over the past several

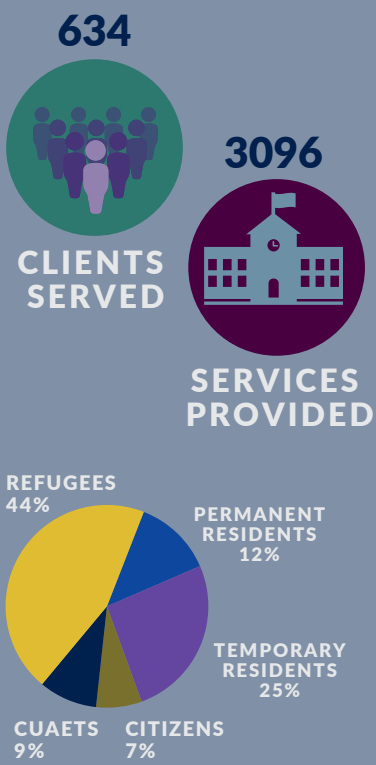
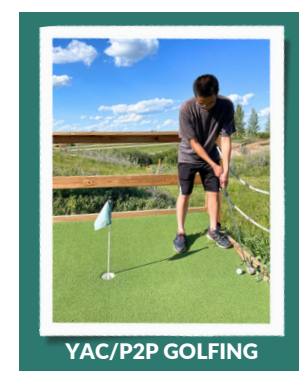
years and they wanted to respond by making services more welcoming and easier to access for newcomers.

Things discussed included how to access the food bank, where was the food bank, what sort of foods could you expect in a hamper, how many times a month/year can you access the food bank, what additional programs are offered to food bank clients, the purpose and mission of the food bank, what is food insecurity, and more. Tours of the Food Bank, including the warehouse area, were provided and clients were able to see the entire scale of the Food Bank operation. The final session was presented by our Settlement Staff where we invited clients to cook simple foods that they might be unfamiliar with but would be common in a Food Bank hamper.

# SETTLEMENT WORKERS IN SCHOOLS

## SETTLEMENT WORKERS IN SCHOOLS

The Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program supports newcomers from ages 3-21 and their families as they adjust to life at their new school. SWIS workers cover not only Moose Jaw schools, but also the surrounding rural South Central region of Saskatchewan up to 150 km. They work collaboratively with the school divisions and families to help newcomers understand the requirements of the school system, such as permission forms, fees, school supplies and enrollment. They provide a number of services including: school registrations, orientations on public and separate school systems, school and public transit systems, understanding school rules and norms, school tours, information and registration for extracurricular activities, and ongoing liaising between families and schools to obtain the best results for all. With the SWIS workers, the Youth and Community Connections worker helps to run summer and after-school group programming to promote newcomer involvement in the community.



## PUBLIC AWARENESS PRESENTATIONS

An important part of our SWIS department's role is to spread awareness about MJMC and cultural diversity in Moose Jaw. This past year, SWIS conducted 14 public awareness presentations that reached over 400 youth and teachers! This included presentations at various Elementary schools in Moose Jaw, Craik and Mortlach as well as a presentation given at the Calgary Crossroads Conference to other settlement professionals and newcomer youth.



## WOMEN AND GIRLS' SELF DEFENSE

Upon receiving a grant from the South West District for Culture and Sports funded by the SASK Lottery Fund, MJMC was able to secure a 4-session training course hosted by Kim's Taekwondo Moose Jaw. From March 4th to March 22nd 2024, our SWIS team and a total of 18 newcomers - mothers and their adolescent daughters - attended these sessions.



Master Warren Miller and Jenna Beaton provided extensive instruction to the participants on self defense to boost their confidence by fully engaging them in a set of demonstrations and practices. After the participants completed the training, participants reported a higher level of self esteem and confidence in themselves. They were able to access more courage which would later go to help them participate more fully at school, work and in the community. In addition, the school-aged girls developed a more positive outlook on body image which reinforced the idea that they could defend themselves in the future, should the need arise.

## YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC)

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is a group of high school students that meet once a month to identify gaps in their community engagement and determine how those gaps can be turned into opportunities for newcomer youth to explore the various community services and resources available. YAC's focus is to ensure the various elements of health are targeted through our programming which includes physical, mental, spiritual, social, environmental, and intellectual well-being. They participate in various activities and field trips throughout the year such as a tour of Joe's Place, a visit to Regina's RCMP Heritage Centre, and an evening of fun at South Hill Bowling Centre. Starting off with only 3 members in September 2023, YAC has now expanded to 15 total members!



TOUR OF JOE'S PLACE



BOWLING AT SOUTH HILL BOWLING CENTRE

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- WEEKLY CONVERSATION CIRCLES
- MONTHLY COMMUNITY SOCCER
- EASTER EGG HUNT AT MJMC
- CULTURAL DANCE CLASSES
- WORLD REFUGEE DAY EVENT
- RINGETTE PROGRAM
- INDIGENOUS BEADING CLASSES
- COMMUNITY WALKING TOUR
- CONCERTS IN CRESCENT PARK
- TRICK-OR-TREAT HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY AROUND THE CITY
- PAINT NIGHT IN COLLABORATION WITH SCIC REGINA
- CHRISTMAS MOVIE AT MOOSE JAW PUBLIC LIBRARY
- CAR SAFETY INFORMATION SESSION

Limited social networks continue to be a barrier to integration between newcomers and the general public. Newcomers need support to understand their adopted community, form social connections, and contribute to their new community. The Community Connections program is popular with local volunteers and newcomers in the Moose Jaw area. The program allows newcomers to meet new people, improve their English, and get to know more about their community. It also creates opportunities for community members to get involved either by donating, volunteering, or attending cultural events and presentations. The program assists the public in understanding the needs of and barriers that many newcomers may face through public speaking engagements, awareness campaigns, promotional resource development, and intercultural communication and integration training for community agencies and the general public.

## VOLUNTEER AT MJMC!!



46 VOLUNTEERS

495 VOLUNTEER HOURS

5 PRACTICUM STUDENTS

229 PRACTICUM STUDENT HOURS

25 YAC/P2P VOLUNTEER MENTORS

67 YAC/P2P VOLUNTEER MENTOR HOURS

Thank you

## DONATIONS

- Baby clothing from Right to Life
- Kids kits containing books, games, paints, etc. from community member
- Winter clothing from MJ community
- \$100 anonymous donation
- \$200 gift card from Giant Tiger
- 7 large bags of toys from community member
- Boxes of hygiene products from Alliance Church
- Bags of winter clothing from Lindale Elementary School





## WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Every June 20th, we celebrate World Refugee Day, a significant date that touches on the important issues of refugee displacement worldwide. This year MJMC partnered with Moose Jaw Library to raise awareness about Refugees to the Moose Jaw Community. The purpose of this event was to provide information on refugees worldwide and the journey that they have to make in order to make it safely to Canada. Booths were set up in Crescent Park and MJMC clients from the top 6 countries from which we receive arrivals were able to share information about themselves and their home country. This past year, over 70 people attended the event, making it a great success and the perfect opportunity for community members to mingle with some of Moose Jaw's newcomers!



**WORLD REFUGEE DAY**

## CULTURAL DANCE CLASSES



Another program we would like to highlight this year is the 4-class cultural dance series hosted by Marcela Borrero, a dance instructor who specializes in a variety of dance forms practiced around the world. During these sessions, Marcela taught dance styles from 4 different countries: Salsa from Cuba, Belly Dancing from Egypt, Bachata from Dominican Republic and Champeta from Colombia. Attendance ranged from 20-25 participants per session and included clients as well as community members. Lots of great memories were made as we danced the evenings away! This is definitely a program that we would like to continue into next year, as there was high participation and interest rate from clients and community members. It was a great way for newcomers to join in on an activity to expand their social network and enjoy fun-filled evenings out in the community!



**SALSA DANCE  
LESSON**



## SWIS SUMMER PROGRAM



The 6 week Tuesday/Thursday Summer Camp program for youth aged 13-16 was split into a boy's day on Tuesdays and a girl's day on Thursdays. The same activities were completed by each group. Students were able to engage in the activities that provided opportunities for entertainment, learning, developing skills, and integration. Activities included: bike safety; Indigenous Elder Event; SWIS 'Olympics'; information on dental hygiene, cyberbullying, and vaping; ringette training through Ringette Saskatchewan; soccer training with Brazilian Elite Sports Academy; and visiting the fire station, Folklore Society, Mosaic Garden, and Free To Be Me Animal Farm.

This year SWIS partnered again with the Phyllis Dewar Outdoor Pool and offered Newcomer youth (aged 12-21) 6 sessions of drop-in swim programming on Friday afternoons to address water safety. The youth had so much fun and we thank the city of Moose Jaw's Recreation Department for partnering with us in this program!



**23 AGES 13-16  
SUMMER PROGRAM**



**31 AGES 13-17  
DROP-IN SWIMMING**

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS SUMMER PROGRAM

This past year, we had a very successful turnout for our Community Connections Summer Program. The camp ran on Monday to Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. A total number of 20 kids between the ages of 6 to 12 years old joined in on this program. The majority were refugees from various countries, such as Syria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Uganda and Somalia.



**20 KIDS  
AGED 6-12  
3 STAFF  
4 VOLUNTEERS**



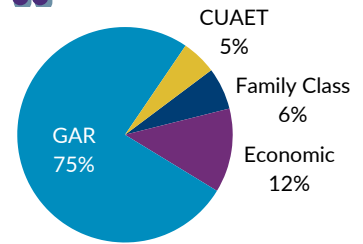
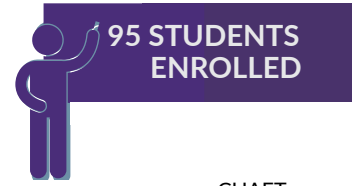
The kids enjoyed a variety of activities organized by our staff, including some events in collaboration with the City of Moose Jaw and other partners. Other activities included: learning activities at the Moose Jaw Public Library, artistic activities at the Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery, soccer training sessions with the Brazilian Elite Sports Academy, and a trip to the Science Center in Regina. Each day, campers had lots of fun trying out new activities and making friends along the way!



# LANGUAGE CLASSES

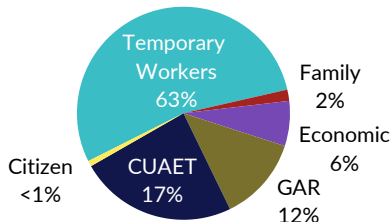
## LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION FOR NEWCOMERS TO CANADA (LINC)

The LINC program for permanent residents facilitates the integration of adult immigrants into Canadian society by providing English language training based on themes for Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) from pre-literacy beginners up to CLB 6. The free program provides half-day lessons running five days a week, where students are enrolled in the morning or afternoon class that corresponds to their language ability. Lessons include social, cultural and economic information, and students are exposed to topics related to Canada and the Canadian way of life, while also learning English.



## STAGE 1 & 2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING

Similar to the LINC program, the evening Stage 1 & 2 English program facilitates the integration of adult immigrants into Canadian culture and society by providing English classes for CLB 1-6. This free, part-time program offers students two weekly lessons corresponding to their ability at the beginner, intermediate, or advanced level. It is available to permanent residents, temporary foreign workers, and new Canadian citizens.



## NIGHT CLASS EXPANSION



In September of 2023, the MJMC language department was thrilled to add a fourth night class and expand to 18 seats per class. The four classes are now:

- Stage 1 Beginner for Pre-Benchmark-CLB 2
- Stage 1 Intermediate for CLB 3/3L
- Stage 1 Upper Intermediate for CLB 4
- Stage 2 Advanced for CLB 5-6

Evening classes continue to be highly in-demand for those who work during the day, and the expansion has helped alleviate the long waitlist. An additional night class teacher was hired to allow for one teacher dedicated to each classroom and its students.

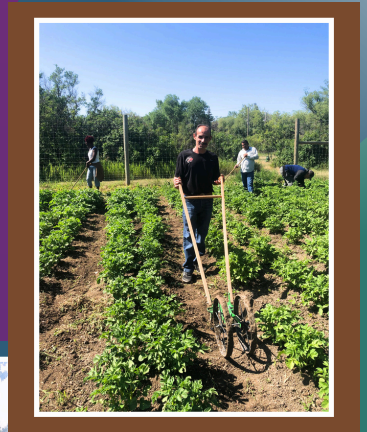
## MOTHER TONGUES OF OUR STUDENTS

Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, Dari, Dinka, French, Gbandi, Georgian, Gujarati, Hindi, Karen, Khmer, Kinyarwanda, Kurdish-Northern, Luganda, Malayalam, Mandarin, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Thai, Tigrigna, Uduk, Ukranian, Urdu, Vietnamese



# LANGUAGE CLASS FIELDTRIPS & SPECIAL EVENTS

An important part of our language program includes hands-on learning experiences where classrooms participate in various trips and special events in and around the community. These activities are invaluable in helping newcomers to become more familiar with services and organizations in the community, as well as Canadian cultural practices ranging from traditional holiday and birthday celebrations to community garage sales.



## MOSAIC COMMUNITY FOOD FARM

The students eagerly participated in weekly sessions at the farm, collaborating closely with Allison and her team from May through October. Their tasks ranged from preparing the garden for planting to tending to the crops, ensuring a successful harvest. This hands-on experience brought them immense satisfaction, fostering a strong sense of fulfillment through their volunteer work alongside Allison and her dedicated staff.



STAGE 1 & 2 - COMMUNITY GARDEN



STAGE 2 - MAE WILSON THEATRE

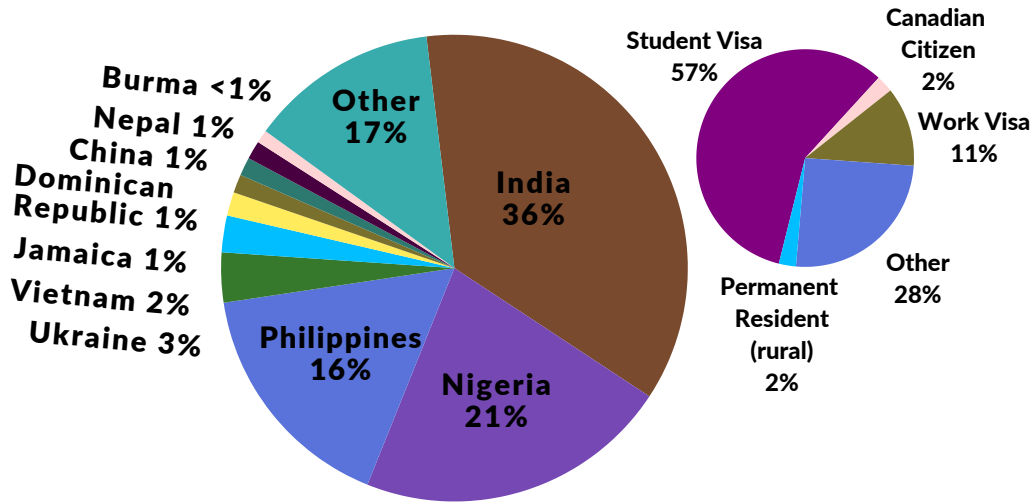
## NIGHT CLASS FIELDTRIPS

The students had a blast going on several field trips around Moose Jaw. They visited the hospital, caught a baseball game, watched a play at the theater, attended the Community Cafe, tried their hand at curling, and even pitched in at the community garden. These experiences helped them with their language skills as they settled into Moose Jaw as newcomers.

- PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS -



# NEWCOMER WELCOME CENTRE



The Moose Jaw Newcomer Welcome Centre is a division of the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council, funded by the Government of Saskatchewan. The NWC serves temporary residents and new Canadian Citizens who live in Moose Jaw or the surrounding 150 km service area. They provide clients with settlement and information services, as well as access to the internet, fax and photocopier services, print and electronic information resources, workshops, and information sessions. Programs and core services include: information advisor, settlement advisor, employment program, the Women's Healthy Living Project, and new this year: the NWC Food Pantry.

In addition to the one-on-one services they provide to clients, the NWC was busy this year hosting a variety of group activities, programs, workshops and events for newcomers in the community. They provided monthly information sessions addressing a range of newcomer concerns, such as seasonal safety, housing, entrepreneurship, and helpful community services. The monthly Community Cafe continues to be a popular event, providing an opportunity to practice conversational English and network with others. They also brought back their highly in-demand Newcomer Driving Education fund in the spring, allowing 11 newcomers to pursue their training to get a driver's license.



**1056  
NEW  
CLIENTS**



**466  
RETURNING  
CLIENTS**



**4710  
INFORMATION  
INQUIRIES**



**438  
SETTLEMENT  
ADVISOR  
CLIENTS**

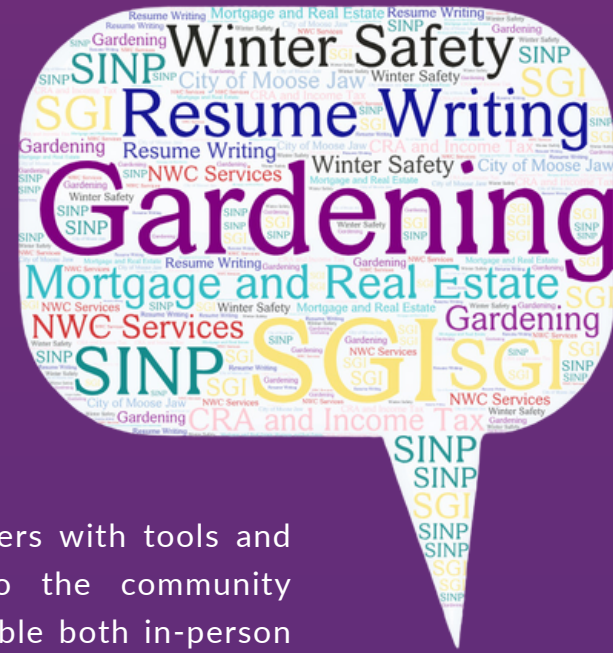


**1571  
SETTLEMENT  
ADVISOR  
SERVICE  
INQUIRIES**

## INFORMATION SESSIONS

This year, NWC staff were able to once again offer a variety of information sessions for newcomers, addressing areas of interest such as gardening, SGI, Resume Writing, Winter Safety, Mortgage and Real Estate, CRA and Income Tax, NWC Services, the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP), and the City of Moose Jaw.

These information sessions provided newcomers with tools and information to enable them to settle into the community smoothly. Many of these sessions were available both in-person and virtually, for the convenience of clients residing in the wider service area outside of Moose Jaw or otherwise unable to attend in-person.



## COMMUNITY CAFE

Every third Thursday of the month the Newcomer Welcome Centre hosted a Community Cafe where MJMC and NWC clients, as well as interested community members, could come have a cup of coffee and participate in lively discussions to practice their English. This was a wonderful recurring event that brought in many people monthly, including the Upper Intermediate



Night Class students, who don't always get the same chances as daytime classes to join in on activities in the community due to their busy work schedules.

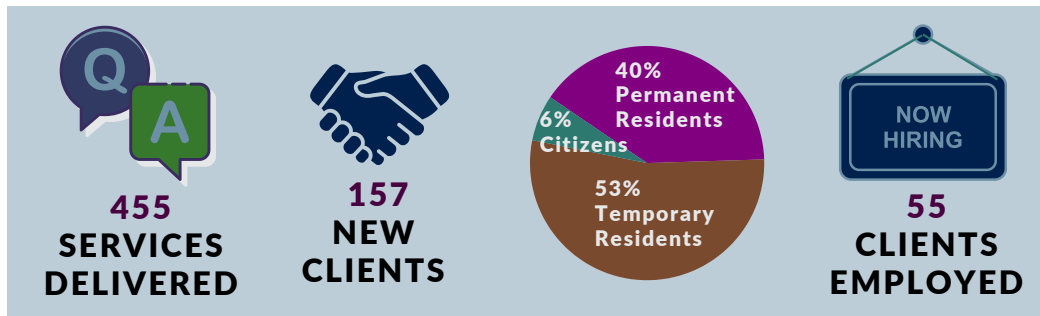
Discussion topics varied month-to-month and participants were encouraged to share little anecdotes and stories of what their life is like back in their home country. In March, Cafe attendees even had the opportunity to bring a special cultural dish and everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck together. The NWC is always looking to welcome new and familiar faces to their monthly Community Cafe for the purpose of helping newcomers expand their social network and improve their conversational English skills.

# EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

## EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM

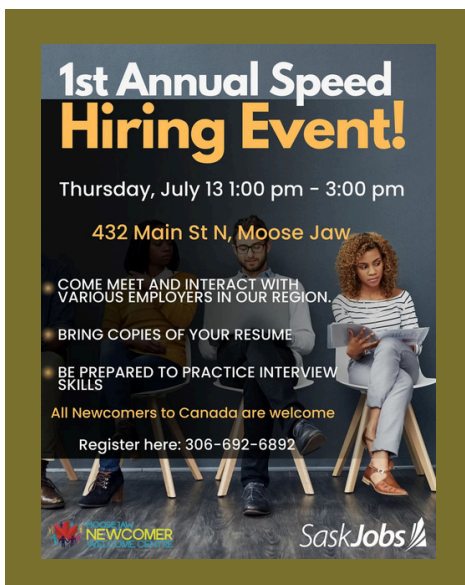
The Employment Readiness Program is a continuum of the settlement process that is vital to the successful and sustainable integration of newcomers into life in the community. The program focuses on ensuring clients are workplace ready and have the skills to be successful in the workforce. Structured workshops are delivered to groups and individuals, supplemented by one-on-one counseling, job placement and/or mentoring opportunities, training opportunities, and assistance in developing the essential skills needed to achieve success in the labour market.

The employment coordinator develops a career plan with each client to ensure their needs are identified and met, then assists them in working towards their goals. The coordinator also works closely with local employers regarding new job opportunities for clients and job maintenance for clients already engaged in the workplace.



## EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

- EMPLOYABILITY
- WRITING SKILLS
- SPEED HIRING
- EMPLOYMENT READINESS YOUTH SUMMER CAMP
- RESUME WRITING
- COVER LETTER WRITING
- JOB SEARCH
- INTERVIEW PREP
- INTERVIEW SKILLS
- EMPLOYEE CONDUCT
- EMPLOYER EXPLORATION
- PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS
- LABOUR STANDARDS
- PERSONALITY DIFFERENCES IN THE WORKPLACE
- COMMUNICATION ON THE JOB
- READING TEXT
- ORAL COMMUNICATION
- NUMERACY
- WORKING WITH OTHERS
- CONTINUOUS LEARNING
- DOCUMENT USE
- DIGITAL SKILLS
- CAREER PLANNING
- HUMAN RIGHTS
- IMPROVING SOFT SKILLS
- EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE





## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CAMP



Register [here](#)

**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CAMP 2023**

July 3rd-7th & 10th-14th

- 2 week workshop. Space is limited, attendants need to pre-register.
- Workshop completed in person at Newcomer Welcome Centre 452 Main St N.
- Limited to 16-21 year-old Permanent Residents and those less than 5 years citizens. TRs that are eligible to work in Canada can attend this workshop.
- Contact Omot at 306-690-5852 or swis.highschool@nwcinc.ca for more information.

Funded by / Financé par:

 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada  Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada 

This year NWC and SWIS worked together to run their two-week Youth Employment Camp for newcomers yet again. This program had participation from 8 newcomer youth aged 16 to 21 and helped them to develop a broad range of skills and knowledge to understand and participate in the job market. The program includes a job search component as well as workshops related to employment preparation. This year's workshops included: resume writing, cover letter writing, interview skills, job search, 9 Essential Skills, first aid training, career planning, educational exploration, labour standards, human rights, and soft skills. It also included guest speakers coming in to talk about the importance of volunteering and Saskatchewan Apprenticeship opportunities. This year the camp returned to being entirely in person. All participants successfully completed the program, and gathered for a celebration to receive their certificates.



COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY AT THE PARK



TOUR OF UNIVERSITY OF REGINA



TOUR OF SASK POLYTECHNIC MJ

## EMPLOYMENT READINESS FACILITATOR



Our NWC contract successfully secured a second Employment Facilitator in February 2023, with the contract set to end in December 2024. This program plays a crucial role in providing essential employment support to newcomers in both the rural region and Moose Jaw. The program aims to serve 50 individuals by offering skill-building, job search assistance, workshops, resume writing, mentoring, and help in finding employment opportunities. Additionally, the program focuses on building relationships with employers to provide support and create connections for those seeking employment.

# PRAIRIE SKIES INTEGRATION NETWORK

Prairie Skies Integration Network is Moose Jaw Region's Local Immigration Partnership (LIP), leading networks and strategies that strengthen community-newcomer integration across South-Central Saskatchewan. This year, they worked to further develop partnerships, continued prioritizing research, and began to draw action plans from their existing strategies. They strengthened their existing working groups and initiated additional ones. Through the work with their many partners and contacts they successfully supported coordination of services in the region. As always, in partnership with participants throughout and beyond the region, their goal was to foster more welcoming and resilient communities.



## PRAIRIE SKIES' WORKING GROUPS 2023-2024

### **MJ RESIDENTS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AND RACISM**

This grassroots group, in operation since June 2020, is now a Prairie Skies Working Group. The group is comprised of community members and organizations aiming to address racism and discrimination in Moose Jaw.

### **MARCH 21ST PLANNING COMMITTEE**

This forum had the intention of holding a community conversation on the topics of anti-racism and inclusion in addition to hosting the second annual anti-racism rally. Unfortunately, these events could not be held this year.

### **PRAIRIE SKIES' RESEARCH WORKING GROUP**

A working group consisting of local participants, supportive networking partners, and researchers from across the country. The group takes a Collective Impact approach to guiding locally relevant research needs & opportunities.

### **NEWCOMER EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC INTEGRATION WORKING GROUP**

A collaborative entity focused on addressing employment and economic inclusion issues from a newcomer integration context. This group consists of various inter-sectoral participants from across the country.

### **REGIONAL COORDINATION WORKING GROUP**

A collaborative initiative between multiple participants within the South-Central region of Saskatchewan. The purpose of the partnership is to foster synergy, leverage resources, and promote effective communication to address regional challenges.



## PRAIRIE SKIES' CORE GROUPS

### **THE SECRETARIAT**

The Secretariat is Prairie Skies' Staff Team, currently consisting of project manager Dalise Hector and assistant project manager Jide Kassim.

### **PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL**

The PC is Prairie Skies' governing body, made up of a broad cross-section of participants in, and beyond, the region. The group uses consensus decision-making processes.

### **NEWCOMER ADVISORY COUNCIL (FORMERLY IAT)**

The NAC is Prairie Skies' group of expert advisors, newcomers with firsthand experiences of the process of settling and integrating in our region.

## PRESENTATION AT THE NATIONAL SMALL CENTRES CONFERENCE

Along with three other small centre LIPs, Prairie Skies presented at the *National Small Centres Conference*. The session was entitled *LIP Service: Engaging Indirect Services for Direct Outcomes*. It targeted direct settlement service providers and sought to provide insight on LIP roles as well as a greater understanding of how direct service providers can benefit from collaborating with LIPs. They shared insights and examples of the work being done through Prairie Skies' various collaborations and the work they do to bring successful outcomes to their communities and the newcomers residing there.



### - PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP -

- Carlton Trail College (Morgan Forster)
- City of Moose Jaw (Jim Dixon)
- Holy Trinity Catholic School Division (Sarah Phipps)
- Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada (Genevieve Therrien)
- Moose Jaw & District Chamber of Commerce
- Rural & Northern Immigration Pilot (Jordan Schenher)
- Moose Jaw Multicultural Council (Stefanie Palmer, Chair)
- NWC Manager (Melissa Mitchell)
- Moose Jaw Police Service (Rick Bourassa)
- Moose Multimedia (Wei Qi)
- Newcomer Advisory Council (Kemper Portocarrero & a rotating seat)
- Palliser Regional Library (Jan Smith and later Arwen Rudolph)
- Prairie South School Division (Amanda Olson)
- Province of Saskatchewan (Lorna Tyrie)
- Reseau en Immigration Francophone de la Saskatchewan (Ferdinand Bararuzunza)
- Rural Development Network (Soheila Homayed)
- Saskatchewan Health Authority (Sherri Buhler & Cara McDavid)
- Saskatchewan Polytechnic Student Association (Adeyemi Williams)
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (Augustina Osaseri)
- Town of Gravelbourg (Ariel Haug)

### COMMUNITY CULTURAL ACTION PLAN/CULTURAL DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDAC)

The goal of the Cultural Plan is to identify vision, goals, and actions for culture in Moose Jaw. This is a collaborative effort involving the City, the Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee (CDAC), and dedicated community partners. The process is being completed in four phases: Phase 1 - Research; Phase 2 - Engagement; Phase 3 - Development; and, Phase 4 - Implementation.

Phases 1 and 2 are successfully completed and the Cultural Planning Team is working to deliver Phase 3, thanks to the funding support from SaskCulture's Community Engagement and Planning Grant.



# LICENSED CHILDCARE

At our daycare, all of the children participate in daily active play to foster their gross and fine motor skills. We believe it is important to get outside for a minimum of 30 minutes per day to experience the “outdoor classroom” and to get some fresh air. The children engage in many art work activities using different mediums such as: crafting, sensory activities, science experiments, story/circle times, and free play to foster and develop their holistic growth; socially, emotionally, intellectually, cognitively, and physically.

In 2023, the daycare celebrated many important dates: birthdays, Halloween, Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter, Remembrance Day, Mother’s and Father’s Day, as well as Christmas. They held costume days, a dinosaur party, and many pyjama days. During the summer months, the preschool children were able to enjoy some excursions. They went on a chartered trolley ride, to Monkey Bars, attended Sidewalk Days, and enjoyed many neighbourhood walks around the downtown area and Crescent Park. They also participated in some of the summer programs that the library offered. Our highlight excursion was a trip on a school bus to Windmill Greenhouse, where the preschool children spent the afternoon walking through the greenhouse, learned about planting flowers; then each child was shown how to plant a flower that they could take home. They finished the afternoon with free time and ran around their beautiful outdoor space. The Red Hat Society ladies came for a tea party and helped us celebrate the ending of our “red” projects, a series of crafts where we learned how to create with the colour red. The children also visited the Bentley retirement home and Crescent Park Villa to spend time with the residents there.

An important highlight of the year is the Government wage bump increases that were put in place in October, 2023. Many government grants were introduced for daycares to better provide quality care; for areas such as maintenance, indoor/outdoor toys, and technology.



## CAPACITY:

**10 TODDLER**

**19 PRESCHOOL**

**1 SCHOOL AGE**

**5 FLEX**

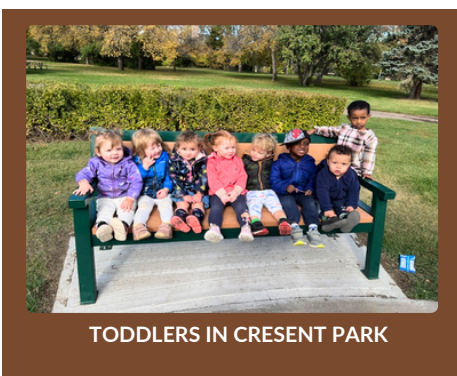


## STAFF:

**1 COOK**

**4 FULL-TIME**

**4 PART-TIME**



TODDLERS IN CRESENT PARK



PRESCHOOLERS AT WINDMILL GREENHOUSE



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR APPRECIATION DAY

## CPKC HOLIDAY TRAIN



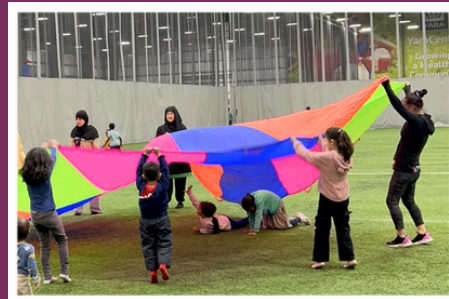
Each year Moose Javians gather together when the CPKC holiday train comes rolling into town to raise funds for the Moose Jaw Food Bank. This is a huge Moose Jaw tradition to

enjoy an evening filled with live music and festive entertainment in the downtown.

It is important for newcomers to be introduced to and involved in these traditions and get connected to the community. So the LINC and SWIS departments decided to bring some clients to this event to share with them the spirit of the Canadian holiday season. There were 11 youth, 5 families, the Beginner night class and 3 MJMC staff totaling 51 people. Everyone had a great time dancing to the upbeat holiday music and basking in the colourful lights that lined the train. This evening was definitely one for the books!

## SOCCER/FAMILY DAY

This past year, the Community Connections and SWIS departments collaborated to introduce a duo-activity for those who like to take part in the monthly soccer event at the Yara Centre. Since many family members like to attend, they decided it would be good to also rent out a second space for family activities so that the children and family members of the soccer players could also join in on the fun! It turned out to be a great success each month with over 50 participants for the combined activity. The men tended to be interested in the soccer game while the women enjoyed playing little games such as catch, badminton, and parachute with the younger children. We hope to maintain this collaboration in the years to come.



## PSIN, NWC, and SWIS Rural travel and connections

Towns visited

- Coronach
- Davidson
- Assiniboia
- Gravelbourg
- Roleau
- Avonlea
- Bengough
- Mossbank
- Caron
- Craik
- Central Butte
- Mortlach
- Chaplin

Events attended:

- Old Coronach Street Festival
- Assiniboia Ethnic Jubilee
- Gravelbourg Community Expo
- Gus Bus in Caron
- Rural Sask: Work Live Thrive Job Fair in Regina



# STAFF DEVELOPMENT



Understanding trauma-informed care / approaches and settlement/integration of evacuees in rural communities  
Small Centres, Big Impact 2023 National Small Centres Conference on Settlement & Integration of Immigrants  
Advocating with humility, working with families with Autistic Children (the Centre for Newcomers in Calgary)  
Early Childhood Facilitator Workshop, "Developing Executive Function & Social Emotional Development"  
Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression (Truly Alive Youth and Family Foundation for Anti Oppression)  
Leadership and Culture – How to Create a Workplace Where People Like to Work (Achieve)  
Building Capacity of the Settlement Sector to respond to Gender-Based Violence  
Bridging Communities – Reconciliation: A journey Together (SK Health Authority)  
Violent Threat Risk Assessment Training (Center for Trauma Informed Practices)  
Onboarding New Hires and Summer Students Work Plans Workshop (SWDRS)  
Building, Bridging Together: Child Welfare, Immigration, Settlement Sectors  
Systems Navigation Training through Action for Healthy Communities  
Systems Navigation Training (Action for Healthy Communities)  
Communicator Training (The Communicator Training Program)  
Increasing Community understanding of Ukrainian Evacuees  
ASIST Suicide Prevention (Saskatchewan Health Authority)  
Social Media for NonProfits 101: Developing your Content  
The dangers of Vaping (Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation)  
Immigrant and Refugee Mental Health Training (CMHA)  
Supporting Staff Mental Health (Oaks Mental Health)  
Moose Jaw Police Presentation (Moose Jaw Police)  
De-Escalating Potentially Violent Situations (CTRI)  
Navigating Difficult Client Relationships (Achieve)  
Probation Training by Carolee Turner (WRAPCAP)  
Conflict Resolution Skills for Leaders (Achieve)  
RAP Service Providers Conference in Calgary  
Community Building Basics (Philippa Daves)  
Trauma Informed Care (Oaks Mental Health)  
Calgary Crossroads Conference (WRAPCAP)  
Vicarious Trauma (Aurora Family Services)  
START Suicide Prevention Course (CMHA)  
Kids Mental Health (Oaks Mental Health)  
The Cost of Caring (Oaks Mental Health)  
Trauma Informed Practice (APT Canada)  
Motivational Interviewing (APT Canada)  
Dealing with Difficult People (Achieve)  
Pathways to Prosperity Conference  
Mental Health First Aid (SK Health)  
SAISIA Small Centres Conference  
Gender Based Violence  
Digital Literacy (SAISIA)  
Grant Writing (SAISIA)  
First Aid & CPR





# 2023 - 2024 FINANCIALS NOTICE

Due to recent changes in Saskatchewan regulations regarding Non-profit Organizations and the auditing process for their financial statements, the audited version of Moose Jaw Multicultural Council's financial statements was not ready at the time of printing of this report. The Financial Report will be provided and posted separate to this report. To access this report, please refer to the 'Financial Statements' resource on our website or request from the organization directly.

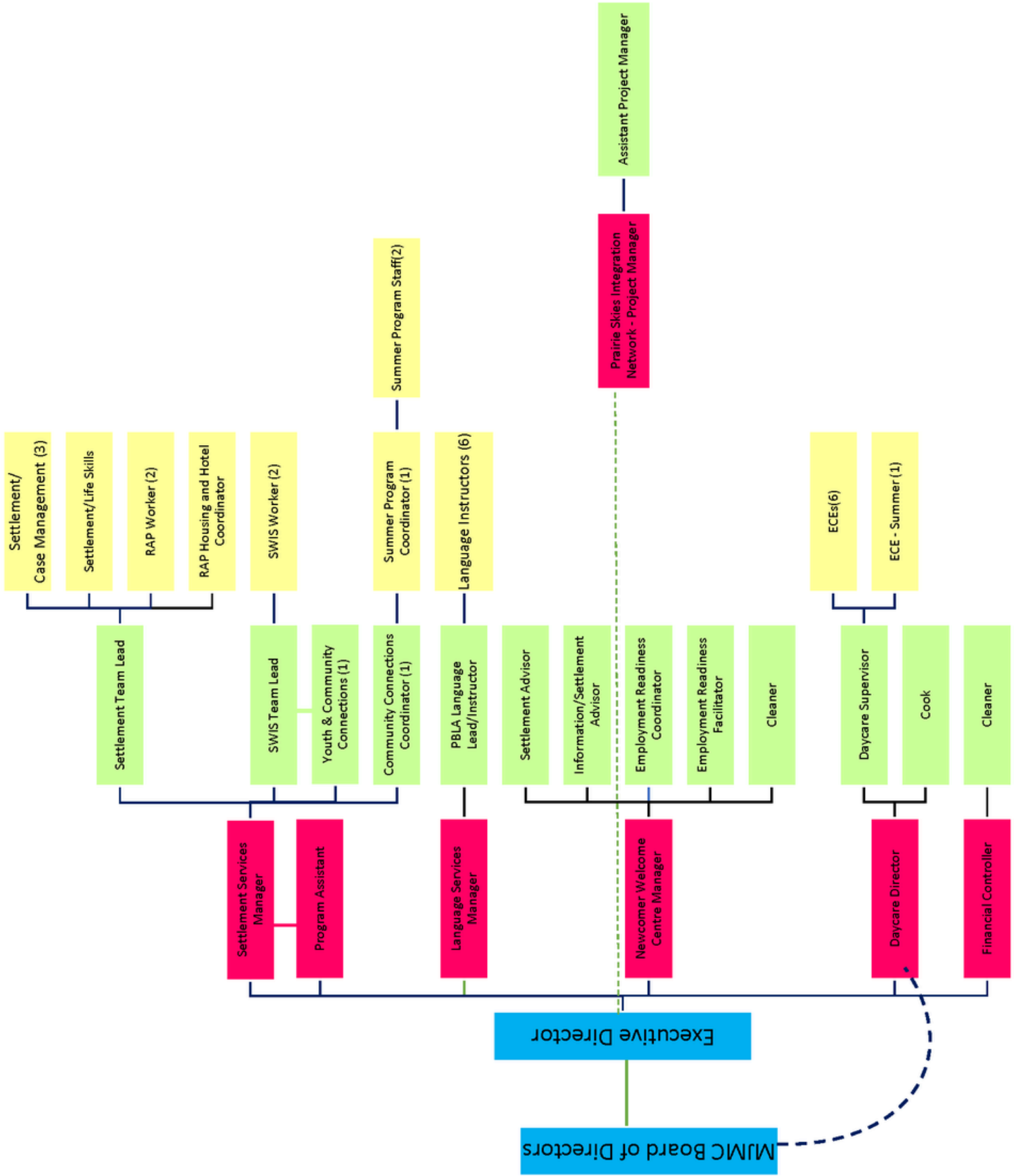
Moose Jaw Multicultural Council is committed to providing transparent and accurate financial records for the public, our donors, and our funders.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in the shift of location in which the financials are provided.

Sincerely,

*Jaella Wiebe*

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





**MOOSE  
JAW MULTICULTURAL  
COUNCIL INC.**

**60 ATHABASCA ST. E. MOOSE JAW, SK S6H 0L2  
306-693-4677 WWW.MJMCINC.CA**