

CHAT Newcomer Patient Engagement Event

March 5, 2018



As a follow up to the first patient engagement event held in 2014, the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network (ESC LHIN), in partnership with Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership, hosted CHAT: Changing Health Access Together on March 5, 2018. Thanks to the efforts of WE LIP member organizations, 145 individuals made up of newcomer patients, service providers, community partners and volunteers were in attendance.

The purpose of this second consultation was to share some of the changes affected in the system since the last engagement and to empower patients and families to share their further recommendations as important community members and owners of their health care. It was also an opportunity to engage with a greater number of health service providers and community partners to discuss collaborative approaches to addressing health access barriers.

Objectives of the patient engagement were to:

- Learn when and where newcomers are typically accessing health care;
- Discuss barriers that may lead newcomers to forego or delay care, leading to more serious health problems and increased future costs to the health system;
- Talk about what is working well within the system, and recommendations for improvement; and
- Learn and discuss some of the challenges service providers have when working with newcomers.

The ESC LHIN will be creating a report to incorporate the feedback and discussion points collected during the event.



LMIA Information Sessions for Employers

May 15, 2018

On May 15, 2018, two information sessions for local employers were held at the Service Canada Windsor office. The Understanding the Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) Process sessions were organized by WE LIP staff, in partnership with WE LIP member organizations, WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation, New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc. and Service Canada.

Information regarding what an LMIA is, along with the application process under the Temporary Foreign Worker and the Express Entry programs, was delivered to 36 attendees by Service Canada staff via video conferencing.

In most cases, any job offer by an employer to a foreign worker has to be supported by a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA). The LMIA is a document submitted to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) that establishes the need to hire a foreign worker because there are no local workers available to fill the job. ESDC base their decisions on labour market indicators as well as the information submitted by the employer in assessing the LMIA application.

Canadian employers hiring employees through the Express Entry process must also complete and LMIA. Employers unable to fill job vacancies with Canadians or permanent residents may offer a qualifying job to a skilled foreign worker through the Express Entry immigration selection system. Unless the candidate (worker) has been working in Canada for at least one year on a work permit designating a specific employer (such as a NAFTA work permit or as an Intra-Company transferee), employers must obtain an LMIA in order for the permanent job offer to be validated for Express Entry. This document serves as proof that the hiring of the skilled worker will have a positive or neutral effect on the Canadian labour market.

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WE LIP Newcomer Youth Table Members Participate in CAS Youth Election Forum

May 15, 2018

The WE LIP Newcomer Youth Planning Committee identified that newcomer youth need to have more opportunities to participate in the decision-making processes regarding the design and delivery of the services available to them and have more avenues to raise their concerns to decision-makers. In response, a recruitment process took place in April 2018. Five newcomer youth between the ages of 14 and 22, and two adult co-chairs (Delna Buhariwalia, Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women and Gerardo DeRose, YMCA of Western Ontario) were selected to form the WE LIP Newcomer Youth Table. Their purpose is to assist and advise the Planning Committee in making youth-informed decisions and enhancing available supports.

During their first meeting, the group was tasked with formulating questions for the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society's Provincial Election Forum focusing on issues impacting youth of our community. On May 15, 2018, Youth Table members, Mory and Johakyna, were provided an opportunity to pose the following questions directly to the candidates:

1. I feel that the current education system does not adequately prepare students to explore the wide variety of career options available to them today. The sense I get from my peers is that they really do not know what they want to do in the 'real world' once they have graduated or how to put their learning into practice. How will your leadership help address this gap?
2. I see that some of my friends who experience social isolation do not 'know Windsor' – they would benefit from learning more about the different neighborhoods, communities, and cultures that live in Windsor. What will you do to support youth who want to build connections and integrate across the various communities that currently call Windsor their home?



3. I understand that, as youth, we experience challenges in emotional and mental wellness that lead to self-esteem issues and even depression. However, I feel that when youth speak to a counsellor or medical professional to address their problems, they are often prescribed medication for depression and mood disorders. I feel that this is a problem – the over-prescribing of medication to deal with issues of emotional and mental wellness. Secondly, this sort of over-dependence on medication does not help us address what I think is at the heart of many youth issues, which is a lack of connection to their communities and childhood trauma. What steps would you take to address this?
4. According to you, what causes poverty in Ontario and what efforts would you put forth to reduce poverty locally?



Photo credit: Charlotte LeFrank

ESINC Open Air Display

May 24, 2018

Approximately 600 newcomers were in attendance at the 9th Annual Emergency Services Introduction to New Canadians (ESINC) Open Air Display held at Major FA Tilston Armoury & Police Training Centre on May 24, 2018.

In addition to emergency services equipment displays and information booths, the planning committee offered newcomers the unique experience of a mock accident scene. Onlookers saw first-hand how emergency service responders including police, fire and ambulance respond to a vehicle accident. Cheers erupted when the jaws of life were used to remove the vehicle top and the accident victim was extracted.

The ESINC Planning Committee includes:

- Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Service
- New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc.
- Ontario Provincial Police Essex County Detachment
- Unemployed Help Centre of Windsor Inc.
- Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership
- Windsor Fire & Rescue Services
- Windsor Police Service
- Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women
- Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.
- YMCA of Western Ontario





SPICE Presentation at OMSSA

May 28, 2018

WE LIP's SPICE (Settlement Partners Information Communication Exchange) Committee collaborated with the City of Windsor to deliver the SPICE Up Your Service Delivery Practices presentation during the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) 2018 Leadership Symposium hosted in Windsor.

The workshop highlighted the collaborative partnership which has evolved as a subcommittee of the WE LIP through the leadership of the City of Windsor Employment and Social Services. The SPICE model regularly brings together Social Services staff from Ontario Works, Children's Services and Housing in partnership with 12 local settlement agencies to exchange information, identify challenges and propose solutions, all with the common goal of promoting successful outcomes for newcomer clients.

Panelists included:

- Bruno Ierullo, Executive Director of Employment and Social Services, City of Windsor
- Mary Ellen Bernard, Manager of Social Policy and Planning / Project Manager City of Windsor / Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership
- Janet Gerace, Supervisor, Ontario Works, City of Windsor
- Jennifer DeMaeyer, Orientation Specialist, Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County
- Marina George, Communication Assistant, Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership

