

## Windsor Essex's 2017 Vital Signs Report and Community Conversation at WE LIP Council Meeting December 2017

Windsor-Essex's 2017 Vital Signs report was released to the community on October 3, 2017 at the Windsor Star News Café. According to the WindsorEssex Community Foundation, our community responded that we are doing OK when it comes to the quality of life in Windsor-Essex and identified priorities to address moving forward.

*"The Vital Signs report is an excellent resource that we use throughout the year to guide our grantmaking at the WECF,"* stated Lisa Kolody, Executive Director. *"It outlines where the strengths and needs exist in Windsor-Essex, identifies local priorities, and it informs where our funding will provide the greatest impact locally. More and more local agencies are incorporating Vital Signs data in their program planning."*

WE LIP Community Connector, Michelle Suchiu was invited to present examples of how the community is working together to make Windsor-Essex more welcoming.



On December 12, 2017 the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership invited its members to be a part of the *Windsor-Essex Vital Signs Getting Started Community Conversation* held during the WE LIP Winter 2017 Council meeting.

The conversation focused on employment, welcoming, youth and seniors as it relates to newcomers in Windsor-Essex. Over 50 council members were provided information from guest speakers:

*Rev. Andrew Wilson, St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church*

*Lina Chaker, Windsor Islamic Association & Syrian Canadian Council of Canada*

*Jill Cadarette, Life After Fifty*

*Alicia Summerfield, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development*

A breakout session provided an opportunity for attendees to discuss a predetermined set of questions. The feedback will be compiled into a report by the WindsorEssex Community Foundation.

