

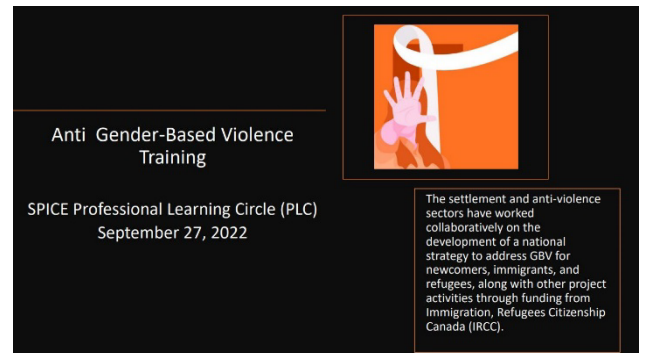
The WE LIP Settlement Partners Information Communication Exchange (SPICE) Committee has been meeting regularly since the winter of 2013. The meetings provide valuable opportunities for representatives from local Newcomer Service Providers and City of Windsor Employment and Social Services, Housing and Children's Services departments to exchange information, learn about each other's operational models and problem solve challenges experienced while serving their mutual clients. The committee planned its eighth Professional Learning Circle (PLC) which took place on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM with over 65 participants.

The first in-person SPICE PLC since 2019 took place at the Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre (WIATC) and was facilitated by WE LIP SPICE Committee members and the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario Gender Equality Program. The Learning Circle focused on Gender-based violence and provided an opportunity for front line staff to meet, gain information and seek clarification on specific topics that affect the successful settlement and integration of immigrants into Windsor Essex.

Training was delivered by Hiba Mehdi, an academic and former Newcomer Settlement Advisor for Gender Equity, YMCA of Southwestern Ontario. Dr. Abdelfettah Elkchirid, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University also provided a virtual presentation. Participants were given an opportunity to ask questions and were encouraged to network and discuss available Gender-based violence programs and services.

To view the recording and to access some of the presentations and resources shared, please check out the [WE LIP SPICE Professional Learning Circle webpage](#).

Following the event, participants were completed evaluation forms to provide their feedback and recommendations for future professional development events.



*Participant feedback:*

*"The GBV presentation was informative, comprehensive, and well organized"*

*"I was not educated at all on this topic. I found it's very informative for me."*

*"I learned how to support people who are facing GBV"*

*"The presentations were very useful; The information provided was clear; Workshop set was great"*

