



partenariat local d'immigration
windsor essex
local immigration partnership

WE LIP 2023 Fall Council Meeting

September 14, 2023

Funded by:

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Immigration, Refugees
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et Citoyenneté Canada

Charlotte LeFrank

WE LIP Chair |

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Specialist

Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society



WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We would like to acknowledge the land on which the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP) and its member organizations work and gather is comprised of the traditional territories of the Three Fires Confederacy made up of the Ojibway, Odawa, and the Potawatomi Nations and the ancestral and unceded territory and waters of Caldwell First Nation whose people are the original people of Pelee Island and Point Pelee.

The Ojibway, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations agreed to share this territory with the British Crown by way of the 1790 Treaty referred to as the McKee Purchase/Treaty of Detroit. This territory is the home of the Anishnaabeg who are represented by the Walpole Island First Nation and the Lunaapeew who are represented by the Delaware Nation.

This acknowledgement is intended to show recognition and respect for First Nation Peoples and their presence on this land in both the past and present. The WE LIP further recognizes that the impacts of colonization upon First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples of this land are very much present, pervasive and woven into the fabric of Canadian institutions, governments, laws and systems. This recognition and respect is vital to continuing to establish healthy and reciprocal relationships with First Nation peoples, which is key in our journey towards truth and reconciliation.



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WE LIP Chair |

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Specialist

Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society



Stephen Lynn

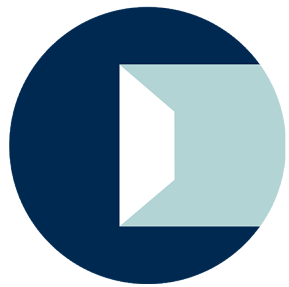
WE LIP Project Manager |
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Sarah Robson

Project Communications Lead,
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OPEN DOORS

PORTES OUVERTES

Project Overview

Project Background

Recognizing the Opportunity

Workforce WindsorEssex and local employers are often approached to identify available opportunities for students to learn more about in-demand and emerging sectors. However, without an official registry, it becomes difficult to expand our reach and variety of organizations willing to host students for experiential learning opportunities or tours, or able to offer speakers for presentations.

At the same time, many students are also searching for their own opportunities without a standardized or centralized bank of opportunities. All this while research has shown that industries have long faced and continue to experience recruitment and retention challenges in emerging and in-demand sectors.

Project Background

Feasibility Testing and Research

Workforce WindsorEssex presented the Open Doors/Portes Ouvertes initiative and funding opportunity to the City of Windsor's Pathway to Potential (P2P) staff in the Department of Social Services. The goal of this research was to evaluate the feasibility of creating an online tool for educators, students, job seekers, as well as parents and guardians.

After consulting with students, educators and industry, we learned more about the factors that act as barriers for all participant groups in the space, and gathered a better understanding of what opportunities exist. The Open Doors Report was created.



**PATHWAY TO
POTENTIAL**
Social Investment Windsor-Essex

Moving Forward

The goal of the Open Doors project is to close the barrier between students and employers for experiential learning opportunities.

Open Doors is a campaign and online platform that identifies employers that have the interest and capacity to welcome students for experiential learning opportunities (ex: placement, co-op), and/or who can make themselves available for presentations, tours, or informative interviews.

Currently in it's development stage, this online platform is set to launch to the public in October 2023.



**United Way
Centraide**
Windsor-Essex County

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Canada

Coming Soon -

- A platform that enables students to explore employer-added experiential learning opportunities
- A speaker directory with a wide variety of professionals across in-demand and emerging sectors in our region
- A recognition program to ensure Open Doors visibility and to shine the light on the contributions of employers, speakers, educators, and students
- Website content (blogs and resources) designed to inform students and industry of the many experiential learning opportunities and programs across our region
 - Blog posts for students about best practices and soft-skills needed for the workplace

Become an Open Doors Employer

Open the doors to your future workforce!!

An Open Doors Employer is a company, organization, or person who welcomes students for experiential learning opportunities like placements (ex: co-op or internships), speaking engagements, or tours.

By better informing the next generation of their options, and providing them with these valuable experience, we are building a stronger future workforce.

We are still fine-tuning our Employer Registration form, to build the best directory possible for students and educators. To be notified when registration is available, please fill out the form at:

www.workforcewindsorsex.com/open-doors



OPEN DOORS

PORTES OUVERTES

Questions or Comments:



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Deliverable: Establish a planning committee to develop content for event to be held in FY5 (April 2024 – March 2025)

- Two planning meetings this fiscal year
 - Discuss purpose, sector representation, and potential meeting dates.
 - Host an event with newcomers in FY5 to learn about in demand sectors.





Monica Champagne

WE LIP & TeaMWork Project Supervisor



Joan Simpson

Programs Manager

Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.

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Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.



Building Culturally and Racially Responsive Service Project

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Women's Enterprise
Skills Training
of Windsor Inc.



RÉSEAU EN
IMMIGRATION
FRANCOPHONE
Centre-Sud-Ouest | Ontario



Project Overview

Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST) will develop resources and tools to improve settlement services delivery and help build the capacity of Service Provider Organizations (SPOs) by providing training and guidance on improving their cultural and racial responsiveness.

Key Components of the Project

- Establishing an Advisory Committee
- Implementing Needs Assessment and Conducting Benchmarking
- Providing anti-racism tools and resources through training/workshops
- Selected group of partners and stakeholder will participate in a “train the trainer”

Project activities will enable the settlement sector, employers and newcomers to:

- Build inclusive communities and foster successful integration/participation
- Further developed and implement holistic approach
- Increase efforts at the human resources and management level to implement policies and procedures
- Provide a safe space for individuals, staff, managers and employers
- Create an inclusive workplace culture
- Inspire more people



THANK YOU!

Ronnie Haidar
WE LIP Vice Chair |
University of Windsor



University
of Windsor



Need for Mental Health Resources for International Students

- **Survey** of international students was conducted in Windsor-Essex in 2020
- **Check in** with students in April of 2022 validated that mental health is still very much an issue
- **Recently**, concerning news articles of international student's declining mental health further emphasized the need for work to continue on this front



What is Being Done

- **International Student Planning Committee**, consisting of staff and faculty from the university, college, school boards and settlement organization were called upon to share resources
- **WE LIP Team** has developed a list of resources to be shared on website, among partners and at promotional events.
- **Team** met up with University of Windsor's Student Health, Counselling, & Wellness Services and International Student Centre staff.
- **Lancer's Care Week**, the WE LIP team will be hosting a booth at the University of Windsor campus on International Student day (November 17th) during a series of mental health focused events.
- **St. Clair College** has been consulted and have shared resources and are willing to collaborate on mental health focused events



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Senior Program Advisor, Logistics Coordination Unit |
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Stephen Lynn

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Marcela Diaz

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Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County



Michelle Suchiu

Vice-President of Strategic Partnerships |
Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership
Workforce WindsorEssex



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Public Safety Day & Festival of Guest Nations – **Sept 17**
- Building Culturally and Racially Responsive Service Project – **Oct 2023**
- SPICE PLC - **Fall 2023**
- WE LIP Annual Community Forum – **Nov 9**
- International Students Mental Health Initiative – **Week of Nov 13 – 17**
- Newcomer Women in Transitional Housing Panel Discussion - **Nov 23**
- Newcomer Youth Service Matrix – **Coming Soon**
- WE LIP Winter Council Meeting – **Feb 15**



Next Meeting

2023 WE LIP Annual Community Forum
November 9, 2023
Location TBD

***In recognition of National Francophone Immigration Week**

