

Settlement Partners Information Communication Exchange (SPICE) is a committee led by WE LIP and made up of representatives from Newcomer Service Providers and City of Windsor Employment and Social Services. The goal of the committee is to develop a coordinated approach on service delivery challenges and improve upon the ways newcomers receive information.

The committee hosted a Professional Learning Circle on June 17 at All Saints' Church in downtown Windsor. The event provided an opportunity for a larger complement of front line staff to meet face to face, share information and provide opportunities to seek clarification on specific topics that effect the successful settlement and integration of immigrants and refugees.

Topics included:

- Initial settlement process - First days in Canada
- Info Sessions, Summer Activities & Settlement Guide
- English/French CLB Benchmarks - Employment readiness
- Childcare subsidy
- Work permits
- Month 13 - Brainstorm strategies for working together to support the common client
- Face to face - networking

The following organizations participated in the SPICE PLC:

- Unemployed Help Centre
- Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County
- YMCA of Windsor-Essex
- Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc.
- The Windsor Women Working With Immigrant Women
- New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc.
- South Essex Community Council
- Collège Boréal
- Matthew House Windsor
- City of Windsor, Community Development and Health Services - Ontario Works
- Centre Communautaire Francophone Windsor Essex Kent Inc.
- Children's Aid Society of Windsor Essex
- Angela Rose House
- The Refugee Ministries of the Diocese of London in Windsor

What participants had to say:

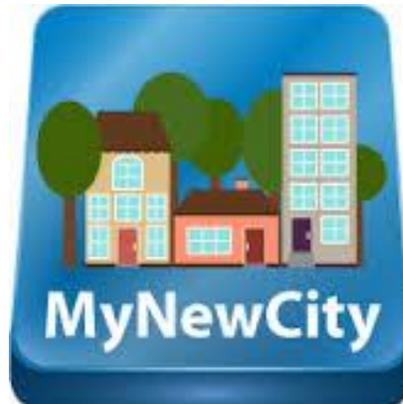
"It was wonderful hearing different news from different agencies, very informative."

"Very well done. I wish all of our staff could hear this."

"Great job to the SPICE group. Please continue to organize these events. Thank WE LIP for leadership."

"This is valuable information that absolutely needs to be shared . Kudos to WE LIP-SPICE and IRCC for facilitating and allowing the event to take place."





On World Refugee Day, June 20, 2016, the City of Windsor launched a new app. MyNewCity was designed to help “Newcomers” to the Windsor Essex region search for services and agencies to help them with their transition. Entries can be searched by agency or service address, agency name, type, street name, city or town or keyword.

MyNewCity will help newcomers to Windsor Essex navigate their way through services on their own, or with the help of agency staff. The internationally recognizable symbols used on the map make it easy to find a service regardless of the user’s primary language, and with just a few steps they can even print a map to guide their way across town.

The MyNewCity – Newcomer Services “app” is an initiative of the Geomatics Division of the Engineering – Infrastructure and Geomatics Department at the City of Windsor, in collaboration with the Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP) and the Orientation Advisory Committee (membership includes Windsor and Essex County Agencies funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada to provide Orientation, Settlement and Language services). The app can be accessed on any computer or device, anytime, and anywhere, using the internet directly or via Wi-Fi.

The app has also been linked to www.welcometowindsor.essex.ca webpage hosted by the County of Essex.

