

Kamloops & District Local Immigration Partnership

COMMUNITY PLAN

2025-2028



We acknowledge that we are located on T̓kemplúps te Secwépeḿc territory, situated within the unceded ancestral lands of the Secwépeḿc Nation. We honour and respect the people, the territory, and the land that houses our community.



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Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration
et Citoyenneté

Local Immigration Partnerships (LIP) are community-driven planning tables that bring together local key partners representing important local organizations to improve the settlement and integration of newcomers. LIPs do not deliver services or provide funding. Instead, they coordinate efforts, identify gaps, and align community resources to support newcomers effectively.

The Kamloops & District LIP was established in 2025. The Council plays a pivotal role in supporting the LIP by providing leadership, resources, and policy alignment. It helps drive a shared vision for integration, engages with community partners, and ensures all services are accessible and culturally responsive. By fostering collaboration and advocating for systemic change, the Council contributes to building a resilient, inclusive society where newcomers are empowered to participate fully and contribute to the local economy and community life.

The Newcomer Advisory Table (NAT) brings the voices and experiences of newcomers to the LIP, guiding priorities and shaping initiatives. Their input ensures programs are inclusive, relevant, and responsive to community needs. By centering newcomer perspectives, NAT strengthens integration, engagement, and equitable access in Kamloops.

KAMLOOPS & DISTRICT LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

PURPOSE

The Kamloops & District LIP supports a collaborative, inclusive community where newcomers can thrive. By co-creating with local partners and promoting equity, we provide resources and strategies that help immigrants contribute, integrate, and feel a strong sense of belonging.



VISION

We envision a welcoming, vibrant community where newcomers and long-time residents connect, collaborate, and grow. Kamloops & District will be a place where everyone, regardless of immigration status, can contribute, belong, and build a shared future.

WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK

Belonging: We are committed to creating safe spaces where individuals feel welcomed and valued. We believe in fostering environments that nurture personal growth, cultural exchange, and community connection.

Respect: We value trust, honesty, and active participation in all our initiatives. Our approach is rooted in the understanding that meaningful collaboration comes from diverse perspectives and mutual respect.

Collaboration: We prioritize collective action, working with various sectors and community groups to address the unique needs of newcomers. Together, we leverage resources, share knowledge, and create responsive solutions.

Equity & Social Justice: We recognize, respect, and embrace the diverse cultural identities, experiences, and needs of all individuals. We are dedicated to ensuring that everyone, regardless of immigration status, background, or lived experience, has equitable access to opportunities, services, and support.

Inclusion & Diversity: We are committed to dismantling barriers to full participation and fostering an environment where all individuals are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. We strive to create a community that promotes multiculturalism, free from any form of discrimination.

PRIORITY 1

Improving Access to Services and Community Supports

Goal: Enhance newcomers' access to community services and supports through collaboration, outreach, and increased awareness. Ensuring they can navigate resources effectively, timely and participate fully in the community.

PRIORITY 2

Newcomer Employment and Economic Integration

Goal: Improve newcomers' access to and awareness of employment and economic support services by fostering collaboration among service providers, employers, and community partners, helping newcomers achieve meaningful career and financial success in Kamloops.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Kamloops & District LIP Newcomers Advisory Table Meeting, Sept 2025

“As a newcomer, healthcare services were particularly difficult to understand, as everything in my home country is private.”

Listening to our Community, KIS Survey Report 2025

Respondents suggested awareness-raising activities and information sessions at key entry points, to support newcomers as soon as they arrive.

TRU & KIS Feasibility Study 2023

“Employment is an issue including credential recognition; language acquisition is an issue especially for family class immigration process, [as it] is incredibly taxing on families and on mental health.”

PRIORITY 3

Diversity, Equity and Social Belonging

Goal: Empower newcomers and the host community to actively address racism and inequities through anti-racism initiatives, EDI workshops, and cross-sector collaboration. By fostering awareness, education, and accountability, we work to create a more inclusive, equitable, and connected Kamloops, where all community members are respected, valued, and supported to thrive.

PRIORITY 4

Community Engagement & Representation

Goal: Increase newcomer participation and representation in community initiatives, councils, and decision-making processes to ensure their perspectives are integrated into the planning and development of Kamloops programs and services.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Kamloops & District LIP Council Meeting, Aug 2025

Promotion of learning and unlearning opportunities in intercultural development, human rights and anti-racism for all community members.

Increase understanding of diverse cultures, challenge colonial norms, and create safer, more inclusive spaces for everyone.

Listening to our Community, KIS Survey Report 2025

“Most newcomers struggle with social connections, arguing that they cannot meet people and develop meaningful relationships because of cultural or language barriers.”



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Canadian Mental Health Association – Kamloops
City of Kamloops
FINLIT-Financial Literacy to Capability
Interior Health
Interior Women’s Centre Society
Kamloops & District Chamber of Commerce
Kamloops & District Elizabeth Fry Society
Kamloops Central Business Improvement Association
Kamloops Family Resources Society
Kamloops Food Policy Council
Kamloops Immigrant Services
Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre
Literacy in Kamloops
Open Door Group – WorkBC Centre
School District 73
Thompson Rivers University
Thompson-Nicola Regional Library
United Way BC – Thompson Nicola Cariboo Region
Venture Kamloops
Vivacity Technologies
Volunteer Kamloops
YMCA BC – Kamloops



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