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of Chatham-Kent

Winning Communities Video Series

The CCC-K was awarded sponsorship from Citizenship and Immigration Canada to create the Welcoming Communities; Winning Communities (WCWC) Video Series. This series will educate and build cultural competency of staff members from businesses, healthcare providers and the voluntary sector, by providing training tools to successfully support and integrate newcomers. The three videos created will be covering the following topics:

- Welcoming and Hiring Newcomers in your Business
- Welcoming Newcomers as Volunteers
- Creating Welcoming and Culturally Sensitive Healthcare Services

The CCC-K will be hosting four Focus Group sessions, to gather information and experiences to help develop the content and script for the videos to meet the needs of rural communities. The focus groups will be held on the following dates:

Newcomers Focus Group:
Friday, April 9th
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Employers Focus Group:
Tuesday, April 13th
7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Voluntary Sector Focus
Group:
Tuesday, April 13th
12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Healthcare Practitioners
Focus Group:
Wednesday, April 14th
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Vic at Vic@ccck.ca or Stella at Stella@ccck.ca

Funded by:



Citizenship and
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada



New CCC-K Website

The CCC-K was part of advisory committee for the United Way of Chatham-Kent's Community Innovations Team. The team was group of six youth interns funded by Community Futures Development Corporation. One youth intern, Ethan Mitchell, did a fantastic job upgrading the CCC-K web site. Please visit our new site at www.ccck.ca.

On the back

Contributing to Chatham-Kent / New Year around the World

CCC-K Staff Members



Teresa Fysh
CCC-K Executive Director



Vic Caldwell
WCWC Project Coordinator



Stella Jonah
WCWC Administrative Assistant



James Foster
RDO Project Coordinator



Become a CCC-K Member!

Join us to support a welcoming community for all newcomers and cultural groups in Chatham-Kent. To learn more about our annual benefits, membership options and to download a registration form at www.ccck.ca/DonationMembership

For online Membership Donations please visit www.canadahelps.org and type in Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent.



Contributing to Chatham-Kent

By James Foster



About a month ago I began working at the Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent. One of my first assignments was to report on business success stories from newcomers to our community. Two of the people I interviewed were Brian Zeng of the Rice and Noodle restaurant and George Krumov of the Tikki Tornado. I wanted to learn why they chose to open a new business in Chatham-Kent, and how they feel about the community.

I must say that their view of the community was very refreshing. George said, “When people find out about my world experience they ask me ‘Why Chatham?’ I wonder ‘What kind of a question is that? What’s wrong with Chatham?’” George, like many newcomers to Chatham-Kent, sees the potential in this community rather than asking questions like “Why would you want to move to Chatham?” Brian smiles when he says, “There are so many nice people in Chatham ... I have become good friends with many of my customers.” Brian and his wife are proud to be part of our community and feel there are plenty of opportunities for people who are willing to take a risk and look for niches in the market that have not been filled.

Now more than ever, we need to support our community and the people that choose to move here and open up businesses. They not only contribute to our economy by creating jobs but also expand the cultural choices available to us. Some of the Cultural Coalition’s key objectives are to reach out to more entrepreneurial newcomers, spread the word about Chatham-Kent, and to help create more success stories like these to keep our community thriving.

You can read more of George’s and Brian’s stories on the Municipality of Chatham-Kent web portal or at www.cckc.ca. The Rice and Noodle restaurant is located at 112 Kiel Drive and the Tikki Tornado restaurant at 103 King Street. Stop in and say hello to these new members of our community.



New Year Celebrations around the World



Iran

The Iranian New Year, called Nowruz, is the day containing the exact moment of the vernal equinox, which usually occurs on 20 or 21 March, commencing the start of the spring season. The Zoroastrian New Year coincides with the Iranian New Year of Nowruz, and is celebrated by the Parsis in India and by Zoroastrians and Persians across the world.



China

Chinese New Year is the most important Chinese holiday and it’s based on the lunar Calendar. Most of Asian countries celebrate this festival. It is the longest holiday in China which lasts 7-14 days.



Islam

Al-Hijra, the Islamic New Year, is celebrated on the first day of Muharram, the month in which prophet Muhammad emigrated from Mecca to Medina. Unlike the important days of Eid-al-Adha and Eid-al-Fitr, there are few rituals associated with the Islamic New Year. There is no prescribed religious observance; most Muslims regard the day as a time for reflection on the actual Hijra and on the year to come.



Hinduism

Hindus celebrate Diwali or Dipawali as festival of lights. Light, being symbol of hope and positive energy, indicates the victory of good over evil. By spreading light in every corner of our premises, we try to destroy the reign of darkness, on the night of Diwali. Celebrated usually in the month of October or November, Diwali bears significance in the Hindu culture as well as among Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains.