



OLIP OTTAWA LOCAL
IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

PLIO PARTENARIAT LOCAL POUR
L'IMMIGRATION D'OTTAWA

OTTAWA IMMIGRATION STRATEGY (OIS)

The Ottawa Immigration Strategy (OIS) is a guiding document for OLIP's work. The strategy sets long-term priorities in six areas: economic integration; health and wellbeing; settlement; language; education; and community and institutional capacity development. The first OIS was developed in 2011 following a period of more than 18 months of consultations, research, and priority setting workshops. Since then, the strategy has been renewed following a review of our progress and challenges. The second OIS was established in 2016 and we are now at the 3rd edition of the OIS.

Below is a summary of priorities identified in the 3rd Ottawa Immigration Strategy as endorsed by OLIP partners in June 2023.

Economic Integration

1. Further enhance Ottawa's ability to attract newcomers by projecting itself as a diverse, world-class capital that welcomes newcomers, including international students, where newcomers thrive, and where diversity is celebrated.
2. Extend and improve strategic alignment among institutions and initiatives concerned with newcomer economic integration.
3. Help immigrants navigate towards employment in a changing labour market environment and expand the scope of supports to include career progression and skills development and adaptation.
4. Strengthen the capacity of employers to hire immigrants, and create strategic targets for this priority, such as key sectors and/or types of employers such as small and medium enterprises.
5. Promote and support entrepreneurship among newcomers and immigrants.
6. Clarify misconceptions and myths about immigrants' human capital and competitive advantage and their contributions to Ottawa's economy, economic sectors and workplaces.
7. Find, amplify, and create innovations to address the barriers in economic integration for newcomers.

Health and Wellbeing

1. Improve the importance that governments and healthcare provider organizations attach to immigrant and refugee health and advocate for prioritization and targeted funding to improve this population's health status, and access to healthcare.
2. Improve newcomers' access to healthcare, preventive care, and dental care.

3. Improve newcomers' access to mental health care, through greater access to preventive services and mental health promotion, training of counselors and establishment of culturally relevant trauma counseling.
4. Enhance health literacy among immigrants and refugees and building agency capacity to support this goal.
5. Strengthen the equity capacity of healthcare organizations, including inclusive leadership and culture, equitable HR practices, and the hiring and retention of immigrant and racialized medical professionals and lay healthcare workers.
6. Improve the quality and accessibility of local health care data bearing on the health and service outcomes of newcomers and stimulate research on immigrants and refugees' health.

Language Training and Interpretation

1. Further improve the planning, deployment, and quality of federal and provincial language courses so they are complementary and better matched to the needs of Francophone and Anglophone immigrants.
2. Improve newcomers' access to specialized language training that supports broader community and learner needs.
3. Improve, raise awareness of, and extend the availability and accessibility of interpretation services to improve access to legal, justice, health, and social services by newcomers with limited proficiency in official languages.
4. Promote special language programming for populations at risk of exclusion and ensure language instructors are sensitive to the complex challenges faced by this category of learners.
5. Strengthen the capacity of OLIP Language Sector Table to advocate for improvements in language training and interpretation, including creation of additional training options, such as on-the job language training.

Education

1. Improve newcomer's academic achievement outcomes by defining and addressing systemic inequities behind disparities in these outcomes.
 2. Improve immigrant-parents' involvement in school activities, student learning, and school governance.
 3. Build trust between schools and immigrant students / racialized communities, through improved and shared awareness of newcomer students' experiences in schools, challenges and opportunities, and solution pathways.
 4. Build partnership plans in neighbourhoods that complement and support Ministry of Education directives and school board mandates.
- Economic Integration Sector Table plans for immigrant youth transition from school to work and identifying opportunities to advance immigrants' employment in the education sector

Socio-Civic Integration

1. Create structures and relationships that will help service providers design inclusive programs, governance structures and policies to better serve immigrants and ethno-cultural minority communities.
2. Create bridging opportunities for ethno-cultural communities by promoting collaborative and inclusive cultural and recreational activities as well as enhancing access to inclusive services and activities.
3. Promote and scale-up youth programs that are collaborative, achieve multiple outcomes and create value for immigrants, ethno-cultural minority communities and the city.
4. Enhance the quantity, accuracy and “understandability” of information available to immigrants and ethno-cultural minority communities.
5. Improve the capacity of immigrant civic associations and ethno-cultural minority communities to develop stronger links with institutions, elected officials, and service providers.