



# 2021 GRANDE PRAIRIE LOCAL IMMIGRATION ACTION PLAN

Towards Greater Immigrant Integration

## ABSTRACT

This Action Plan is based on the 2021 Immigrant Survey and 2019 GPLIP Priorities document.

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# 2021 Grande Prairie Local Immigration Action Plan

## Background

In 2019 The Grande Prairie Local Immigration Partnership (GPLIP) identified 6 priorities: housing, education/language, employment, health and wellness, settlement services, and inclusion in their work towards improving the integration of immigrants into the community.

Immigrants were invited to complete a survey to ensure these are the correct priorities and put them in order of priority, and to learn what other issues immigrants face in Grande Prairie. They were also invited to share how COVID-19 has affected them.

Results from the 2021 Immigrant Survey and the 2019 Priorities Document have informed the development of this Action Plan. Priorities have been reordered based on the Immigrant Survey results.

1. Housing
2. Employment
3. Health & Wellness
4. Education/Language\*
5. Inclusion
6. Settlement Services
7. Communication\* (added as a result of feedback from 2021 survey)

***Step 1 – Share draft action plan items\* with each of the sub-committees for endorsement and feedback – identify which organizations would be part of the Resources***

***Step 2 – Finalize action plan***

***Step 3 – Source funding***

***Step 4 – Update at each GPLIP meeting***

# 2021 – 2023 Grande Prairie Local Immigration Partnership Action Plan

## 4. EDUCATION/LANGUAGE

Action Item	Success Indicator(s)*	Resources	Timeline
<p>Create a program/campaign for businesses and organizations to identify which languages are spoken at their workplaces for in-the-moment interpretation services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop interpretation and translation program/services for businesses and other organizations to access so they can provide better services to newcomers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Signs are posted in City facilities and businesses around the city that let people know which languages services can be provided in</li> <li>✓ Businesses report people using services in other languages</li> <li>✓ Newcomers report this being helpful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to develop, promote and deliver the program/campaign</li> <li>▪ GPCN</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul>	<p>Years 1, 2 &amp; 3</p>
<p>Hold ESL classes in non-traditional places and at different times during the day where immigrants can also explore the location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the Second Street Theatre, Coca Cola Centre, Muskoseepi Park Pavilion, Grande Prairie Museum, etc. to tour the location before or after to have a better sense of what is offered in the community</li> <li>• Partner with day care centres to offer childcare during evenings when parents attend classes</li> <li>• Improve transportation opportunities to and from the locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ More options are available for ESL course delivery</li> <li>✓ Childcare is offered outside of regular day times</li> <li>✓ Newcomers access ESL classes at different times during the day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to explore partnerships with different locations for ESL course delivery and childcare to be offered outside of day times</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul>	<p>Years 1, 2 &amp; 3</p>
<p>Work with employers to develop English language learning that is job-specific.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Job-specific language learning courses are offered</li> <li>✓ Newcomers access the training and report that they are more confident when communicating in their workplaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to develop, promote and deliver program</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul> <p><b>Council for Lifelong Learning?</b></p>	<p>Years 2 &amp; 3</p>

<p>Work with schools to create after school language classes for students to continue learning their first languages and their cultures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ After school programs are offered for newcomer students to continue learning their first language</li> <li>✓ Learning their first language and learn about their culture increases confidence and appreciation of their language and culture. It also helps them to better communicate with their families in Canada and in their countries of origin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Small group to develop, promote</li> <li>▪ People fluent in different languages to deliver program in schools</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul> <p><b>GPCN – Build on homework club?</b></p>	<p>Years 2 &amp; 3</p>
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## 7. COMMUNICATION

Action Item	Success Indicator(s)*	Resources	Timeline
<p>Update GPLIP website: Have tabs for each of the priorities Update search on <i>Resources</i> page to include and clearly tie to the priorities list, for example there are a number of different topics to search for that could be rolled up into one priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing: Affordable Housing, Buying (what?), Emergency Shelters, Housing, Renting, Seniors Housing</li> <li>• Employment: Finding Work, Getting Ready to Work, Self Employment</li> <li>• Health and Wellness: Health and Medical, Support and Counselling,</li> <li>• Education/Language: ESL Linc (will people know what that is?)</li> <li>• Inclusion: Arts and Culture, Community Connections, Cultural Associations, Faith, Neighbourhood Associations, Parks and Trails,</li> <li>• Settlement Services: Newcomer Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Increased numbers of hits on the website</li> <li>✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for</li> <li>✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to update the website</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul>	<p>Year 1 Update in Years 2 &amp; 3</p>

<p>Share information about immigrant services on the Immigrant Advisory Table's Facebook Page and other social media accounts Post on them regularly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a communications plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for</li> <li>✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to create the communication plan and create content to be shared</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul>	Years 1, 2 & 3
<p>Improve access to information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide clearer instructions on websites if that's where people are supposed to go for information</li> <li>• Provide good service over the phone to help reduce stress and anxiety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for</li> <li>✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$0</li> </ul>	Years 1, 2 & 3
<p>Create a hashtag for GP immigrants to follow/search for information #New2YQU? #New2GP? Ask IAT and GPLIP members to use it on their posts, newsletters, email signatures, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the hashtag</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for</li> <li>✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Small group to come up with a hashtag</li> <li>▪ \$0</li> </ul>	Year 1
<p>Send out monthly/quarterly email updates to those interested in connecting with GPLIP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Newcomers and those interested in assisting with newcomer integration report being better informed about community events and services and programs for newcomer integration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Someone to create the communication plan and create content to be shared</li> <li>▪ Funding for above</li> </ul>	Years 1,2 & 3
<p>Advertise number to call if immigrants are struggling with COVID-19 or other issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 211/Help Seekers</li> </ul>	Year 1

	✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs		
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