



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.

Tymmarah Mackie, MA

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Consultant

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

6. SETTLEMENT SERVICES

Action Item	Success Indicator(s)*	Resources	Timeline
Advertise more. Consider medical offices, banks, inside buses, Chamber newsletters, bulletins at places of worship, cultural restaurants, coffee news, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers and host community members are more aware of services available to newcomers ✓ Newcomers access services more often which helps with their integration into the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to coordinate the advertising ▪ Funding for advertising 	Years 1, 2 & 3
Update the Grande Prairie Newcomers Guide annually <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post newest version on City of Grande Prairie, GPCN, GPLIP websites, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers and host community members are more aware of services available to newcomers ✓ Newcomers access services more often which helps with their integration into the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to update the Guide ▪ Funding for above 	Years 1, 2 & 3
Hold information sessions about what services are offered. Have booths at Street Performers Festival, Bear Creek Folk Festival, Storm Hockey Games, Prairie Mall, Recreation Centres, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers and host community members are more aware of services available to newcomers ✓ Newcomers access services more often which helps with their integration into the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People to deliver sessions and be at booths ▪ Funding for above GPCN? 	Years 1, 2 & 3
Teach intercultural competence for newcomers AND host community members with a focus on cultures who are living in/coming to Grande Prairie.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers have a good understanding of Canadian culture and how to navigate differences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to develop, promote and deliver the course 	Years 1, 2 & 3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Host community members have a good understanding of different cultures living in Grande Prairie and how to navigate differences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location to deliver the courses ▪ Funding for above 	
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7. COMMUNICATION

Action Item	Success Indicator(s)*	Resources	Timeline
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing: Affordable Housing, Buying (what?), Emergency Shelters, Housing, Renting, Seniors Housing • Employment: Finding Work, Getting Ready to Work, Self Employment • Health and Wellness: Health and Medical, Support and Counselling, • Education/Language: ESL Linc (will people know what that is?) • Inclusion: Arts and Culture, Community Connections, Cultural Associations, Faith, Neighbourhood Associations, Parks and Trails, • Settlement Services: Newcomer Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increased numbers of hits on the website ✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for ✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to update the website ▪ Funding for above 	Year 1 Update in Years 2 & 3
Share information about immigrant services on the Immigrant Advisory Table's Facebook Page and other social media accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to create the communication plan and create content to be shared 	Years 1, 2 & 3

<p>Post on them regularly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a communications plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for above 	
<p>Improve access to information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide clearer instructions on websites if that's where people are supposed to go for information • Provide good service over the phone to help reduce stress and anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for ✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$0 	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"> • Promote the hashtag 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for ✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small group to come up with a hashtag ▪ \$0 	Year 1
<p>Send out monthly/quarterly email updates to those interested in connecting with GPLIP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newcomers and those interested in assisting with newcomer integration report being better informed about community events and services and programs for newcomer integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Someone to create the communication plan and create content to be shared ▪ Funding for above 	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"> ✓ Newcomers report being better able to find the information they are looking for ✓ Service providers report an increase in the numbers of people accessing their services and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 211/Help Seekers 	Year 1