

# Annual Report 2022-2023



Welcome Place





# Message from the Board Chair and Executive Director

We are proud to present to you our 2022-2023 Annual Report on behalf of Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. / Welcome Place. Within this report you will witness the results of the admirable work of the Welcome Place team and Board of Directors who are dedicated to serving newcomers to Canada and Manitoba.

The last four years at Welcome Place have been without a doubt the most demanding years for the Agency in its 80-year history. These years have been filled with honest reflection, accountability, and the strongest sense of determination by the entire Welcome Place team and Board of Directors to rebuild the agency to a stronger position than before.

The work Welcome Place has done to re-establish itself started at its very core. We adapted strongly to funding limitations and have managed to serve 100% of our previous client base despite 55% less funding! We have implemented efficiencies at all levels and use forward thinking to be viable and innovative, thereby securing our place in the sector. It is important to note that through our continued efforts, the clients we serve today receive an improved quality of service. We attribute this meaningful achievement to providing structure, accountability, and tools within the entire team which make our jobs more efficient and productive.

In January 2023, Welcome Place engaged Honest Agency to conduct a brand audit to understand how Welcome Place is perceived within the sector, community, and with our clients, with the goal to learn, grow, and once again become a respected agency for our clients, our partners, and our funders.

A unique initiative implemented over the past few years is to enrich our newcomer settlement services by teaching newcomers to independently complete and follow-up with their own document applications. We offer this teaching as part of our day-to-day support guiding newcomers through the complicated settlement process. As a newcomer-serving organization, it is our responsibility to support the independence of newcomers and challenge the culture of dependency.

Welcome Place is spearheading efforts to connect newcomers with rural Manitoba communities to explore employment and the benefits of country living. The rural communities we partner with are warmly welcoming the newcomers, and by all accounts as you will see in the enclosed stories, providing a great quality of life once the newcomers settle.

In the coming years we look forward to fulfilling our strategic priorities of rebranding and repositioning Welcome Place, continued growth in our program areas, expanding our outreach in the community, and collaborating with our community partners and service providing organizations on initiatives that benefit refugees.

Our deepest thank you to our core funders, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, the Province of Manitoba, United Way Winnipeg, and to the foundations and private donors which have provided grants and donations, all of which allow us to fulfill our mandate and mission.

Thank you as well to every member of the staff team, including volunteers, and the Board of Directors, for their contribution to the viability and longevity of Welcome Place and their compassionate service to newcomers.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Maccès'.

Johan Maccès  
Board Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Henderson'.

Shane Henderson  
Executive Director

# ABOUT US

**Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc.** (MIIC Welcome Place) has provided comprehensive holistic settlement services to refugees and newcomers arriving in Manitoba for over 75 years.

## OUR PURPOSE

MIIC Welcome Place exists to foster dignity, independence, and compassion in the lives of people who have come to Canada as refugees.

## OUR MISSION

Every day we make it easier for refugees to succeed in Manitoba.

## OUR VISION

We see a world where refugees are warmly welcomed and well-established as upstanding, contributing members of communities across Manitoba.

## OUR VALUES

Empathy  
Collaboration  
Multiculturalism

Dignity  
Inspiration  
Accountability

## Executive and Management Teams

Executive Director: **Shane Henderson**  
Executive Assistant: **Marchris Gladys**  
Director, Special Projects: **Marta Kalita**  
Assistant Director: **Ahmed Elmi**  
Manager, Client Services: **Felicien Rubayita**  
Building Manager: **Ryan Wait**

## Board of Directors

Chair: **Johan Maccès** (CATHOLIC)  
Vice Chair: **Anumeha Baldner** (HINDU)  
Secretary/Treasurer: **Merdia Imame** (MUSLIM)  
Past Chair: **Bruce Waite** (COMMUNITY AT LARGE)  
Director: **Anita Neville** (JEWISH)  
Director: **Imran Pirmohamed** (MUSLIM)  
Director: **Sharan Tappia** (SIKH)  
Director: **Anton Safronov** (CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE)

# OVERVIEW OF CLIENT SERVICES

**Settlement Services** provides linguistically and culturally appropriate in-person support to newcomers in their native language. Settlement support includes developing a settlement plan, providing assistance to apply for various subsidies, teaching how to complete important document applications and renewals, providing referrals to specialized services and notarization of documents required by newcomers.

**Sponsorship Services** works with active and potential sponsors to ensure they are aware of and fulfilling their obligations to Privately Sponsored Refugees. We provide wrap-around support guiding them through the process to sponsor and welcome their loved ones. We also work with newly arrived refugees to ensure they are receiving the support they need to settle successfully.

**In-Canada Protection Services** provides paralegal and settlement services to refugee claimants as they navigate the complex legal and social systems. MIIC Welcome Place Advisors, with support from community partnerships and volunteers from the University of Manitoba Law Students, help refugee claimants prepare for the refugee hearing process. Refugee claimants are offered individualized settlement support, including referrals to Employment and Income Assistance, medical services, housing resources etc. according to their needs.

**Life Skills Services** helps newcomers with multiple barriers develop the practical skills necessary for successful independent life in Canada. Training topics include Canadian culture, safety, hygiene, neighbourhood orientation, home upkeep and cleanliness, banking, public transportation, nutrition, economical shopping, and registering for programs in the community. Life Skills Trainers work with newcomers in their native language and provide hands-on teaching focusing on mastering fundamental skills.

**Volunteer Services** connects newcomers to people and resources in the community.

Newcomers are invited to actively participate in regular social, cultural, and recreational group activities and they can attend Conversational English, computer, and cooking classes. These activities, run by our family of volunteers, are free and available on a weekly schedule.

**Temporary Housing** provides safe, affordable (low-income) accommodations for refugees:

- For stays up to six months
- Units come with basic furniture, linens, and cookware
- Housing fees include utilities, Wi-Fi, laundry, and local telephone calls
- Residents receive seamless access to onsite settlement services and life skills training

## Pilot Project - Blended Visa Office Referred SERVING A NEW CATEGORY OF NEWCOMER

**MIIC Welcome Place is spreading its wings and serving a new-to-us group of newcomers - Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) refugee newcomers!**

BVOR refugees are often particularly vulnerable because they are or identify as one of the following:

- Women and girls at risk
- LGBTQI or victims of diverse Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Expression (SOGIE) persecution
- Survivors of violence and torture

BVOR newcomers lack an alternative lasting solution; they cannot return home, they cannot stay where they currently reside, and their only option is to be resettled.

BVOR newcomers arrive in Canada as part of a cost-sharing arrangement between MIIC Welcome Place (the private sponsor) and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). MIIC Welcome Place, together with generous donations from donors, provide the BVOR refugee newcomer with six months of support and IRCC provides support for another six months, totaling one year of support.

**Our first BVOR refugee newcomers** are a young mother and her three young children and the mother's adult sister. This extended family fled from Somalia and will reside together at MIIC Welcome Place, in separate units, where they can be together and receive dedicated settlement support from our Advisors.

# In-Canada Protection / Sponsorship Services

## NEWCOMER COMMUNITY INTEGRATION SUPPORT (NCIS) PROGRAM

Sponsorship Services and In-Canada Protection Services at MIIC Welcome Place, funded in part as the *Newcomer Community Integration Support (NCIS) Program*, deliver services to refugee claimants, private sponsors of refugees, and parties wishing to become private sponsors.

In-Canada Protection Services provides settlement support to help refugee claimants integrate socially and economically into the Manitoba community, and to access assistance navigating the refugee claims process.

Sponsorship Services acts as a Sponsorship Agreement Holder (SAH) supporting Constituent Groups (CGs) and/or Co-Sponsors who are privately sponsoring refugees, to accountably support the refugees they sponsor.

For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, MIIC Welcome Place recorded a steady increase in the number of newcomer refugees, both refugee claimants and privately sponsored refugees, seeking para-legal and settlement support. Due to program intervention, the success rate refugee claimants experienced during the hearing stage reached 95%.

During the fiscal year, 100% of sponsored refugees received post-arrival settlement support. The program has helped clients integrate and participate in programs and activities relevant to their settlement. Refugee claimants and privately sponsored refugees benefited from tours to community services and meetings with identified community influencers, leading to a strong sense of belonging and being able to make informed decisions about their settlement path. This support has led to greater client satisfaction and increased feelings of independence.

In addition, 100% of sponsors who submitted applications were supported with training and other sponsor-related supports. The program is greatly reducing the chance of sponsorship breakdowns and during this fiscal year there were no sponsorship breakdowns. Sponsors were provided with the knowledge and confidence to support more refugees in the future.

The NCIS Program has a number of key activities:

1. The needs of each refugee are timely assessed and appropriate referrals are made. A settlement plan is developed in collaboration with the client and regular reviews of the plan are made.
2. One to one and group information/orientation sessions are held for eligible clients, and workshops and meetings are organized for sponsors, both pre and post arrival of the sponsored refugee(s).
3. Tours are organized in various communities and clients are supported to attend events that benefit their integration. Partners and influencers from outside Winnipeg are invited to present about their communities and the benefits of living in rural Manitoba.
4. Three informational guides were developed and are available: one is for privately sponsored refugees, one is for refugee claimants and one is for introducing clients aiming for settlement in rural Manitoba to available services.

Another notable success of the NCIS Program is that a sizable number of refugees gained the confidence to complete their own application forms. There is steady progress assisting clients to do their own immigration applications online thereby fostering their independence.

Many factors contribute to the success of the NCIS Program. One significant one is the recruitment of University of Manitoba law student volunteers. These volunteers work with refugee claimants to complete their Basis of Claim and narratives in a professional manner increasing the likelihood of a successful case.

Many asylum seekers who have come to MIIC Welcome Place have left other provinces because they heard of this program's success and the support offered. This migration is boosting the number of newcomers wanting to live in Manitoba, and with the NCIS Program offering information on rural communities, clients' connection with rural Manitoba is showing signs of growth and this has widened the labour market for newcomers.

# Community Partnerships

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

**Volunteer-delivered group programming for newcomers to help build meaningful connections in the community.**

MIIC Welcome Place offers a number of volunteer-delivered programs for newcomers. These include:

- Conversational English Classes
- Computer Classes
- Cooking Classes
- Social Club Events
- Field Trips (Zoo, Sporting Events, Picnics)
- Community Vegetable Garden
- Neighbourhood Cleanup

### Volunteering at MIIC Welcome Place

When you volunteer at MIIC Welcome Place you become part of a team working to make life easier for newcomers. The generous contributions of volunteers enable us make it easier for refugees to succeed in Manitoba every day.

MIIC Welcome Place values its history of partnering with volunteers. There are many benefits of volunteering

including learning new skills, sharing knowledge and expertise, meeting new people, finding a place to belong and making new friends all while helping your community.

Community volunteers are crucial to the operation of our programs. Our volunteers represent diverse cultures, age groups, abilities, and life experiences.

MIIC Welcome Place utilizes volunteers in many ways:

- \* As teachers in our many newcomer classes
- \* To accompany newcomers on field trips
- \* To drive newcomers on exploratory visits to rural communities
- \* To provide assistance to refugee claimants preparing their Basis of Claim

Each year we look forward to honouring our volunteers and thanking them for their generous gifts of time and service. It is their support that allows MIIC Welcome Place to continue fulfilling its mission and serving over 4000 people in the community each year.



# Pilot Project

## SETTLE IN RURAL MANITOBA

In 2022 when funding for our *Bridging Rural Communities* pilot ended, MIIC Welcome Place did not want to lose the traction it had gained building connections in the rural communities, nor did it want to stop providing such valuable and needed services to its rural partners.

### A Focus on Employment

Welcome Place continued working with regional Service Providing Organizations (SPOs) to further tailor service delivery to their specific needs. A large gap identified was the lack of prospects to fill job vacancies in the rural areas. Thus, MIIC Welcome Place began to focus on employment opportunities when appealing to newcomers to consider settling in rural Manitoba.

MIIC Welcome Place currently offers two information sessions each week to promote settlement of newcomers in rural Manitoba. A general PowerPoint touting the benefits of rural living plus thirteen detailed rural community profile brochures are great tools that help newcomers with their decisions.

Rural employers are invited to make presentations to newcomer groups about available employment opportunities in their respective businesses and communities. MIIC Welcome Place is connected with major local and rural

employers but also receives job offers from farmers, the hospitality industry, small family run shops and other small businesses.

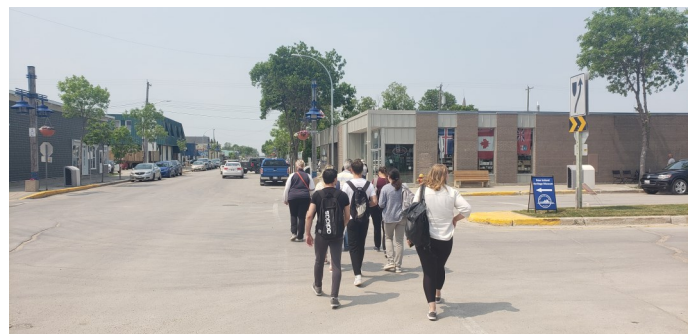
### Exploratory Visits

MIIC Welcome Place partners with regional SPOs to organize exploratory visits to communities of our newcomers' choice. During the planned visits, employment information is delivered by local employers or the SPO's employment facilitator. Tours take place within the community, housing options are looked at, and there are visits to potential work sites.

Most often it is an MIIC Welcome Place volunteer who will drive newcomers to the rural communities for exploratory visits, interviews, or for the final move to the community, and on occasion the new employer will offer or pay for transportation.

### Collaboration with Rural SPOs

The most valued support in these endeavours is offered by regional SPOs in terms of settlement and connections within the prospective new community. It requires coordination of resources, staff, transportation, and accommodations. We truly value our rural partners.





# Pilot Project

## UKRAINIAN INITIATIVE

### Overview

In June 2022 MIIC Welcome Place presented information to the Province about possible gaps in service relating to Ukrainian settlement, and offered a strategy on how MIIC Welcome Place could fill the gaps. Not long after, MIIC Welcome Place was invited to join the Ukrainian Response Coordination Table and, at the request of the Province, began to focus on Ukrainian newcomers who are interested in settling in rural Manitoba.

There was a great need to be involved and offer support to Ukrainian arrivals, and the Province recognized the expertise and strong established connections that MIIC Welcome Place has with regional service providing organizations (SPOs).

Currently, participants are not only brand-new Ukrainian arrivals still residing at Winnipeg hotels, but also Ukrainians who have already moved into the Winnipeg community but want to explore other options.

### Information Sessions About Rural Communities

MIIC Welcome Place hired a Ukrainian/Russian-speaking Advisor who was newly arrived from Ukraine and able to fully understand and relate to this group. We partnered with Manitoba Start which provides us with contact information for new Ukrainian arrivals interested in potentially settling in rural Manitoba. Each person on the list receives an email from MIIC Welcome Place inviting them to attend an information session at the Ukrainian Hub.

During our initial assessments with Ukrainian newcomers and at the information sessions, employment was identified as a priority and therefore MIIC Welcome Place began to focus on the employment piece.

A PowerPoint presentation promoting settlement in rural Manitoba was developed, in English and Ukrainian, and previously developed community profile brochures about 13 rural communities were great tools for our information sessions. (MIIC Welcome Place developed the community profile brochures during an IRCC-funded pilot project “Bridging Rural Communities”.)

The information sessions quickly increased in popularity leading to the implementation of a second weekly session and the relocation of the information sessions to a larger space at MIIC Welcome Place office.

### Exploratory Visits to Rural Communities, and Job Offers!

Between September 2022 and March 2023, MIIC Welcome Place and regional SPOs facilitated 15 exploratory visits to rural communities. Many of the exploratory visits and contacts with employers resulted in job offers and subsequently newcomers moving to rural communities.

### Expanding our Services

Although our primary focus with Ukrainian arrivals has been rural settlement and employment, MIIC Welcome Place has begun offering additional information and orientation sessions on other topics important for successful settlement including but not limited to, sessions about Canadian Multiculturalism, People’s Rights and Responsibilities, Equality, Domestic Abuse, Child Welfare etc.

UKRAINIAN INITIATIVE September 2022–March 2023	Number	Participants
# CUAET Visa Holder Files Opened	585	
# Information Sessions on Rural Living	43	500+
# Information Sessions with Employers or SPOs	11	170
# Exploratory Visits to Rural Communities	15	
# Individuals Relocated to Rural Communities	98	
# Communities* Relocated To	12	

### \*Communities

- Blumenort
- Brandon
- Dauphin
- Deloraine
- Dunrea
- Justice
- Portage la Prairie
- Roblin
- Roland
- Russell
- Steinbach
- Winkler



# STATISTICS - April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

## Settlement Services

# Clients Served:	2460
# New Clients	1440
# Returning Clients	1020
Top Countries of Origin	Somalia, Eritrea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana
# Services Provided	7107

## Sponsorship Services

# New Cases	59
# Individuals Sponsored	132
# Cases/Individuals arrived	59/122
# Sponsorship Agreement Holder Program Cases/Individuals Submitted	53/132

## In-Canada Protection Services

# Refugee Claimants Served (new and returning)	1464
# New Refugee Claimants	292
# Volunteer Law Students (University of Manitoba)	16
# Volunteer Hours (by University of Manitoba Law Students)	211
# Volunteer Lawyers	2
# Volunteer Hours by Volunteer Lawyers	1407

## Life Skills Services

Life Skills Trainers (LST)	7
LST Hours Worked	486
Number of languages served	11

## Volunteer Services

# Volunteers	37
# Volunteer Hours Worked	2174
# Classes and Social Outings	203
# Clients Participating (non-unique)	514

## Housing

Number of Units	30
Number of Residents for the Year	45

### Resident Newcomer Category:

<i>Student Visa</i>	0
<i>Government Assisted Refugee</i>	24
<i>Convention Refugee</i>	0
<i>Blended Visa Office Referred</i>	4
<i>Refugee Claimant</i>	16
<i>Provincial Nominee</i>	1

## Ukrainian Initiative Stats

See Page 9

# Settlement Services

## SUCCESS STORY - Hadja

Story is presented in client's own words, however translated from French to English.

I arrived in Canada on 8/11/2019. Words fail me to describe what the Welcome Place has helped me with. Welcome Place has done a great service to immigrants, people who do not speak English and elderly people. I personally cannot evaluate the immense service I have received. Example: welcome, companion, a warm welcome with smiles. More than smiles, I benefited from their listening and especially the attention given especially to my problems. I received assistance to find solutions to my worries. The Welcome Place staff gave me advice with encouragement to improve my mental health.

The Welcome Place helped me to follow up on my request for refuge, to apply for a work permit. The Welcome Place referred me to other services available for newcomers here in Winnipeg. Every time I come to Welcome Place, sometimes I come with tears in my eyes but I leave with a smile on the lips. I receive services in the language of my choice and I receive solutions and proposals for satisfactory solutions to my requests. I was enrolled in English and computer classes that allow me to meet members of other communities and it allows me to integrate.

The staff who take care of the trainings mentioned above also take care of outings and events in the community. He follows up and calls us to ensure the smooth running of the program. He informs us in case of possible changes. He even

comes with us to make sure. Through the Welcome Place the agent accompanies us during the cold, he offers us coffee, food and warm clothes and gives us important information.

My Welcome Place Advisor does regular follow-ups to see how we can continue to help me. The person at the front desk calls me on my own and it makes me feel part of the Canadian community. Before I was isolated with no one to talk to but now when I have an appointment at Welcome Place, I am happy and I feel comfortable.

In summary, I appreciate the training that the organization has made available to me to learn English and computers. I benefit greatly from the outings organized by Welcome Place and it allows me to participate in events that happen in Winnipeg. It gives me confidence that things are going to be fine. I am satisfied with the regular follow-ups that Welcome Place does as well as the help to follow up on my asylum application with immigration.

I see in WP a well organized structure and it gives us the will to follow in their footsteps.

All these programs give me confidence and the sense of security and motivation to serve others as a volunteer.

Although my case is still in the hands of Immigration Canada and the decision has not yet fallen, I am hopeful that things will go well.

# Settlement Services

## SUCCESS STORY - Ahmad

Story is presented in client's own words.

This is Ahmad. I'm 28 years old. I came to Canada last April 21st through a private sponsorship program by Welcome Place.

My experience with Welcome Place was so nice and great. They helped me in starting my new life here in Canada. Welcome Place with my other co sponsors did a lot of things for me to be established in Winnipeg. Starting with finding a place to live and supporting me in all the stuff I need in my new place. They also helped me in issuing my official papers like Manitoba Health card, opening a bank account, making an account in Winnipeg Public Library, and issuing my driver's license too.

On the other hand they lead me to contact all organizations I need to find a job, write a resume, improve my English language, and also start the process to get my engineering license.

One of the most important things they did for me is to make me contact with my community and this helps me so much in making new friends here in Canada.

I would like to thank Welcome Place and my other two Co-sponsors for all the efforts they did for me.

# Settle in Rural Manitoba

## SUCCESS STORY - Dmytro

\*\*\* ARTICLE FROM THE [MANITOBA HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION WEBSITE](#) \*\*\*

### REACHING OUT TO REFUGEES PAYS OFF, SAYS COMPANY OWNER

The construction season was looking grim for Wes Omichinski, owner of Bonneville Transport, a heavy construction firm in Reston, Manitoba. Recruitment of labourers was proving very difficult.

Then his town economic development officer suggested he consider hiring a Ukrainian refugee and put him in touch with the [Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council](#).

Last week, Dmytro Zaitsev joined Bonneville as a labourer, and is training to be an equipment operator. Zaitsev, who had temporary lodgings in a Winnipeg hotel, has moved to Reston and – from all appearances – is happy to be part of the Bonneville team.

He’s willing to learn,” Omichinski said about his new hire.

Safety training is a going concern and Zaitsev’s English is rudimentary; he and Omichinski are working side by side so far, to ensure his introduction and training to the work gives due regard to safety and health. When English fails, the two are using a translation app on their cell phones.

“There’s always that (safety) concern and, basically, you just have to work with him and be patient,” Omichinski stresses.

That means there’s a lot of time and effort to onboard a new employee, but Omichinski said it is paying off, especially since he was short of workers – the

undesirable option of closing shop and retiring was staring him in the face.

He encourages other employers, especially those smaller companies that are struggling to recruit, to follow suit and take the effort to train Ukrainian refugees.

Zaitsev is cheerful, enthusiastic and appears to be grateful for the chance to start a new life. He worked as a blacksmith in Poland prior to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, when he felt he needed to leave Ukraine.

“Give them the opportunity and they will surprise you.”



# Settle in Rural Manitoba

## SUCCESS STORY - Artur

*Story is presented in client's own words.*

My name is Artur , I am 49 years old. I am from the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, I was living and working in the Czech Republic for the last year, when the war started. There, after discussion with my family who remained in Ukraine, I made a difficult decision to move to Canada. After reviewing the programs of the provinces, I decided to go to Winnipeg, an area with the largest Ukrainian community.

After arriving and checking into the hotel my first step was to make an appointment with the Manitoba Start program in order to obtain a health card and tax number and other information. I was scheduled online for the third day of my stay in Winnipeg, however, two days later I already had an invitation to the "Welcome Place". At "Welcome Place" I got acquainted with the "Rural Manitoba" program and heard how many wonderful places Manitoba has to live and work. However, after a detailed review of my documents, I heard there that I have restrictions on my work permit in Canada, including the one that doesn't allow working in agriculture. I asked the Advisor, named Aima, about what can be done to correct this misunderstanding, and she answered that we needed to find time and they would be happy to help. I can say that time was found for me immediately and we sent a request on my behalf to the Government of Canada to change my status.

The attitude towards me, the desire to help really impressed me, it was so pleasant that words cannot convey it. I recently received an answer that my request was approved by the Government of Canada (I was waiting for about a month and a half). At the second meeting at "Welcome Place" I met people who became my friends, we found apartments in the same building,

we communicate and meet each other almost every day. We live as one Ukrainian community in an apartment building.

Despite the fact that I have not yet used the program of rural Manitoba, I hope that my relationship with "Welcome Place" is not over. I am very grateful to "Welcome Place". Happiness to you for many years.



# Settle in Rural Manitoba

## SUCCESS STORY - Hyra

*Story is presented in client's own words.*

On November 10, 2022, my family and I flew, as we thought at the time, to the final destination of Winnipeg. We were met by volunteers at the airport and temporarily settled in a hotel, for which we are very grateful to the Province and volunteers.

We began to get the necessary documents, look for work and housing. During these searches, we saw an announcement from Welcome Place and came to a meeting where we were told about "rural" Manitoba, about the benefits and opportunities.

We started working in this direction, studied the information leaflets (provided by Welcome Place),

chose several cities for a possible move, and started looking for work and housing in those places.

We decided on the city of Steinbach, just at this time there was to be a trip organized by Welcome Place team. Arriving at the meeting, we met with local organizations and finally decided to choose this city for life.

Everything is fine with us, life is even better than we expected. We have already gotten accustomed to a new place. New friends have appeared. We make plans for the future here and we have everything to implement them.

Thank you for your support!



# Settle in Rural Manitoba

## SUCCESS STORY - Arsen

*Story is presented in client's own words.*

Hi. We are a family from Ukraine, from the Kyiv region, Stari Petrivtsi village. There are four of us, my wife and I, and two sons, 11 and 3 years old. I worked at a drilling rig, my wife was on maternity leave. We have completed our house... but...

At the beginning of the war, we were at home. Everyone was waiting for it to end soon, like in Georgia. But the miracle did not happen, and the Russian troops were getting closer and closer. After shrapnel fell on our roof, we finally managed to leave our house on the 10th day. Since we did not have our own car, it was problematic. Our neighbors were leaving, and they were able to take us with them to Kyiv. I put my wife and children on an electric train to Lviv, God, how many people were there... And I myself started to get to my mother and sister in the Poltava region.

My wife and children lived in Germany for one year. I was able to join them only closer to the end of the year.

We arrived in Canada on March 5, 2023. The road was difficult and nervous, as it was the first time to fly by plane at all, and the transfer in Toronto was only three hours. But we managed everything. Of the minuses, one suitcase was lost after handing it over in Toronto.

Canada greeted us with unusual cold in Winnipeg!!!

It is a beautiful country with beautiful people. Ukrainian volunteers helped us a lot.

Thank you to Welcome Place for the informative meetings and help with the move to the City of Winkler.

I quickly found a job, I work alone, and I can provide for my family. I work at a metal painting plant.

Thank you!



# Settle in Rural Manitoba

## SUCCESS STORY - Oleksii

*Story is presented in client's own words.*

In December, I flew to Winnipeg, Canada. At the airport, I found volunteers who helped me check into the hotel. The next day I started paperwork and I left my email when submitting. After that, I received an email from Welcome Place about a meeting for those wishing to find work in rural areas. I attended this meeting and thus I met Aima.

Leaving me her phone number, she told me to call for all questions of interest and that she would try to help me.

I called her many times and she always helped me with the paperwork.

Thanks to Aima and Welcome Place for arranging a free move to Roblin, where I found a job. To date, we maintain a relationship with Aima and often turn to her for help. For which we are very grateful to her and all the employees working in Welcome Place.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



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## Report of the Independent Auditors on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Directors of  
Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc.

### *Opinion*

The summarized financial statements, which comprise the summarized statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, and the summarized statement of operations for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. for the year ended March 31, 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, on the basis described below.

### *Summarized Financial Statements*

The summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summarized financial statements and the auditors' report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditors' report thereon.

### *The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon*

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated September 15, 2023.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summarized financial statements on the following basis:

The summarized financial statements include the major totals and subtotals from the related complete financial statements dealing with matters having a pervasive or otherwise significant effect on the summarized financial statements.

### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Booke &amp; Partners".

Winnipeg, Canada  
September 15, 2023

Chartered Professional Accountants

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. Summarized Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31	2023	2022
Revenues		
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada:		
Settlement services	\$ 606,269	\$ 671,153
Province of Manitoba	493,099	340,684
Rental income	171,539	175,437
United Way	133,232	128,232
Interest	108,902	31,837
Amortization of deferred contributions	93,819	102,230
Fundraising and donations	45,666	24,405
City of Winnipeg - property tax grant	30,707	30,002
Privately sponsored refugees - administration fee	14,750	10,750
Winnipeg Foundation	10,000	15,000
Fee for service	8,450	10,220
Miscellaneous	4,913	270
	<u>1,721,346</u>	<u>1,540,220</u>
Expenditures		
Amortization	146,618	154,823
Mortgage interest	32,492	33,852
Other	488,044	445,200
Rent and parking	6,900	6,900
Salaries and benefits	1,007,013	898,404
	<u>1,681,067</u>	<u>1,539,179</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures before other income	40,279	1,041
Gain on sale of property and equipment	-	4,956
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ 40,279</u>	<u>\$ 5,997</u>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. Summarized Statement of Financial Position

March 31

2023

2022

### Assets

#### Current

Cash	\$ 119,216	\$ 56,214
Accounts receivable	167,819	237,088
Prepaid expenses	<u>16,200</u>	<u>20,310</u>

**303,235**      313,612

Property and equipment **3,042,261**      3,200,864

Funds held in trust **4,682,649**      4,199,281

**\$ 8,028,145**      **\$ 7,713,757**

### Liabilities

#### Current

Payables and accruals	\$ 84,058	\$ 109,650
Deferred contributions	82,342	108,245
Current portion of long-term debt	<u>48,268</u>	<u>46,866</u>

**214,668**      264,761

Long-term debt **1,034,068**      1,082,537

Deferred contributions for property and equipment **1,943,344**      2,054,041

Funds held in trust **4,682,649**      4,199,281

**7,874,729**      **7,600,620**

### Net Assets

Internally Restricted **120,348**      120,348

Unrestricted **16,487**      (24,631)

Invested in property and equipment **16,581**      17,420

**153,416**      113,137

**\$ 8,028,145**      **\$ 7,713,757**

Approved by the Board



Director



Director

The complete set of financial statements, including notes to the financial statements and the independent auditors' report, are available upon request by contacting the organization's office.

## Thank You

We would like to thank our core funders, community partners, donors, supporters and volunteers for investing in the services we provide to newcomers and for recognizing the difference we can make together.

## Core Funders



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada



## Funders and Supporters

Ariu Dental Centre

Assiniboine Park Zoo

University of Manitoba Law  
Student Volunteers

Waterfront Foundation Inc.

ValourFC

Red River Cooperative Ltd.

Grands 'n' More Winnipeg

University of Manitoba Law  
Students Association

Harvest Manitoba

Legal Aid Manitoba

Manitoba Children's Museum,  
Free2Play Access Program

PBSC Manitoba

## Volunteers

We would like to thank our incredible family of volunteers for investing their time and expertise to enrich the lives of newcomers. The impact of your contribution cannot be measured in dollars and cents, but it is measured by the impact of your compassion and care you bestow upon others.

## Your Support

Funding and donations allow us to continue providing the highest level of service and support to newcomers. With your help, we hope to add to our resources and expand our programs.

If you would like to learn more about programs we offer or to donate, please visit our website at [www.miiic.ca](http://www.miiic.ca). If you would like to donate by cheque, please make your cheque payable to Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council Inc. and mail it to us at 521 Bannatyne Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3A 0E4.