

# Connecting cultures and generations together: *Kamloops Immigrant Services Fostering Integration in Canada*

Moving to a new community can be an overwhelming experience, especially for newcomers navigating unfamiliar territory, a new language, culture, and many other challenges.

For that reason, community services for newcomers are offered throughout Canada. In the Thompson Nicola Region, Kamloops Immigrant Services (KIS) serves as a leading beacon of support, embracing those embarking on the journey of immigration. As a non-profit organization, KIS offers a multitude of free services aimed at easing the transition to a new country and fostering a sense of belonging among new neighbours.

“At the heart of our mission is a commitment to ensuring smooth settlement for all newcomers. Our dedicated team understands the challenges faced by those starting anew, and we provide personalized assistance with every step of the way. We strive to make the transition seamless by supporting individuals through their new life,” said France Lamontagne, KIS executive director.

KIS provides various programs specifically designed to cater to newcomers’ essential needs. These services include English classes, job support, assistance with school, community connection activities, workshops, crisis counselling, referrals to other service providers, as well as intercultural workshops to increase inclusion and reduce instances of racialized violence against visible minorities and underserved groups, along with housing and food security support to help our community thrive with dignity.

Mentors and volunteers are vital in running these programs and services. Through

immersive learning experiences and one-on-one tutoring sessions, assisting community activities, workshops and much more, you can help newcomers learn or improve the necessary skills to thrive and connect with their new community.

KIS also provides specialized programs to meet seniors’ unique needs. The Senior Program offers social opportunities, access to essential services, and valuable mentorship and volunteer opportunities. Activities are free; for registration or more information, email Connie at [senior@kcris.ca](mailto:senior@kcris.ca).

Your experience can contribute to the KIS community by becoming a mentor to guide and support newcomers settling in Canada. This can benefit the newcomers by providing valuable knowledge and experience and fostering new friendships and relationships. For registration or more information, email Jenny at [kismentorship@kcris.ca](mailto:kismentorship@kcris.ca).

Volunteerism lies at the heart of our community. KIS actively seeks volunteers to support and assist their programs and activities, including potlucks, sports nights, field trips, workshops, or tutoring newcomers.

Whether lending a helping hand at community events or mentoring fellow newcomers, every act of service contributes to the rich tapestry of our shared experience.

Join KIS in building a brighter future where newcomers are embraced with open arms and empowered to reach their fullest potential.

Call today at 778 470 6101

or email at

[kis@immigrantservices.ca](mailto:kis@immigrantservices.ca)



**LET'S CONNECT  
GENERATIONS  
AND CULTURES  
TOGETHER!**

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