

Building Community Through Immigration



About the Immigration Partnership and the Immigration Partnership Council

Our vision is that immigrants reach their full potential and contribute to creating and sustaining a thriving, prosperous community for everyone.

The Immigration Partnership works together to create the conditions for immigrants to succeed and help build a welcoming, dynamic community. We achieve this through leadership, collaboration, research, engagement, education and advocacy. A dynamic staff team provides strategic and operational support to the work of the Partnership.

The Immigration Partnership Council provides strategic leadership to the Immigration Partnership. The Council is responsible for ensuring Community Action Plan outcomes are achieved, championing the work of the Immigration Partnership, enabling system and strategic planning, advocacy, and governance of the Immigration Partnership. The overall objective of the Council is to promote shared awareness and leadership and create enabling environments for collective action.

Membership is voluntary for a term of two years, which is renewable twice. The Council holds five regularly scheduled meetings per year, with some work in between meetings and other meetings scheduled as needed.

What Immigration Partnership Council Members Do

System Planning

- Participate in development and final approval of the Immigration Partnership Community Action Plan
- Monitor progress of implementation of the Community Action Plan by addressing issues and challenges
- Seek out resources for the Immigration Partnership and initiatives

Leadership

- Serve as champions and actively engage the leadership of the Waterloo Region communities
- Facilitate strategic relationships across the community to strengthen community capacity to support and improve outcomes for immigrants
- Provide leadership to the progressive transformation of public and community service
- Uphold visionary leadership in the achievement of a caring, inclusive, equitable and anti-racist community where everyone thrives
- Conduct advocacy on issues related to the Community Action Plan
- Advise on needs and gaps to funders and policymakers

Characteristics of Immigration Partnership Council Members

The Council strives for diverse representation, with at least one third of members being immigrants. This includes racially diverse representatives from multiple sectors, geographies, immigrant groups and differing opinions. Council has up to 18 members representing a combination of: immigrants, community sector representatives (health, education, social services, justice, ethno-cultural groups, etc.), employers/business, local funders, municipalities and immigrant service providers.

Members are asked to bring all their experience to Council discussions and connect with all their groups and circles of influence, both locally and beyond, to ensure they bring various perspectives to Council, and take information back to the community. They should be:

- Committed advocates of the Immigration Partnership mandate, values, principles, goals and Anti-Racism Commitment
- Responsible and respected community leaders who bring a community-wide focus to Council
- Committed to partnerships, collaboration, collective impact, relationship development and shared learning
- Be passionate about the Waterloo Region community and embrace the many benefits of a vibrant, diverse population
- Committed to contributing fully to Council meetings and other Council responsibilities