

What's new at CultureLink?



CultureLink Newsletter - August 2018

Summer has fully arrived. It's very hot in the Greater Toronto Area. Try and stay cool during these hot months and make sure that you are staying hydrated. CultureLink has many summer activities during the summer months and we can assist you. if you are looking for a job or need help in enrolling your children in school. Reach out to us and I'm sure we can assist you any way we can. **Have a safe summer.**

[Join us at our 30th Anniversary Gala event on November 22, 2018 at Old Mill Toronto. Order your tickets now!](#)



SWIS and SSP programs sizzle in Summer 2018: Newcomer Orientation Week and SSP in full motion.



Throughout the heat of Summer 2018, our annual programs such as Summer Settlement Program (SSP) kicked off with a bang; providing information and orientation to hundreds of newcomer students and parents. through activities that enhance their self reliance and empowerment, our staff conducted dozens of information sessions, group workshops, summer camps and leadership and training sessions.

For example, many newcomer find it challenging to connect with available services when it comes to issues of safety and well being in the community; as part of our SSP program, an orientation session was held at Mimico Library, conducted in collaboration with Toronto Police Service, a comprehensive session was delivered on law and order, communications with law enforcement, youth and domestic violence issues, sexual harassment, YIPI program and much more.

[Read More](#)

Summer Settlement Program

NEW! CAN HELP YOU! Are you a Newcomer? Yes! You are! We can help!

Are you a Newcomer? Yes! Do you want to make new friends and learn more about your neighborhood? Do you want to access the local health resources? Do you want to get involved in civic and social leadership opportunities?

- Needs assessment and referral
- Information and awareness
- Orientation to the local environment
- Linkages with the community and resources
- Assistance with applications on settlement issues
- Interpretation
- Group activities/sessions for information dissemination
- Social networking support and promoting cross-cultural awareness

Where: @ St. James Town Library

Registration	Orientation for adults	Orientation for youth
12:30 - 5p.m.	10a.m. - 4p.m.	12:30 p.m. - 3p.m.
12:30 - 5p.m.	10a.m. - 4p.m.	12:30 - 5p.m.
12:30 - 5p.m.	10a.m. - 4p.m.	12:30 - 5p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 pm	10 am - 4pm	1:00 - 5:00 pm

Nishi Gogia
Email: ngogia@culturelink.ca
Cell: 647-262-9812

St. James Town LIBRARY

CultureLink



Summer Settlement Program (SSP) provided Educational, sports and healthy activities for our newcomer youth and adults; featuring trips to Blue Jays Baseball game and Royal Ontario Museum and even sailing through Centre Island.

Mania and Newcomers' Canoeing Trip:

As a member of the SSP team, my name is Mania and this is my short and special "Canoe Trip" story:



It was a new and amazing adventure; an adrenaline pumping experience in the waters of Center Island, the SSP team along with ISS teams have arranged a canoe trip for a group of young newcomers. We decided to experience the thrill of canoeing adventure, it was a hazy and humid Friday morning on the 10th of August as we headed to the Island. I was accompanied by a group of 15 newcomer participants, some of whom had never done any canoeing at all. As we progressed in our canoeing for a couple of kilometers, the glow in the eyes of the group was visible as they enjoyed paddling along the beautiful island and its vast stretches of water. Soon, it was time to sing in unison; interestingly, we all hummed: O'Canada... The trip lasted for almost five hours, ending with a hot lunch served at the end of the trip.

[Read More.](#)

**Newcomers meet
Canadian wilderness.**



by Yan Gu

Rouge National Urban Park is the country's first national urban park — a landscape encompassing historic farms, century-old trees, peaceful meadows and lush wetlands. In order for newcomer youth to develop life skills, social competencies, and resiliency, on July 11th, 2018, CulureLink, ParkBus and Parks Canada worked together to invite newcomer youth to have the joys and benefits of exploring nature at Rouge park.

During the trip, youth participants led by Parks Canada staff learned the knowledge and skills needed in order to prepare and carry out their camping adventure on their own. After the Learn to Camp session, youth participants had a fun and joyful time to build their own tents. It was a very good opportunity for youth participants to build effective communication skills and teamwork skills during this session. [**Read More**](#)

Care for the environment ! This is a Tree for Me !

Members of CultureLink's Children and Youth Centre displayed their tree planting skills as they participated in crash-course on saving the environment_one Tree at a time. [**Watch Tree for me**](#)

Workshops held every year in different parts of Toronto; this project not only increases the tree cover in our neighborhoods but but it also provides an opportunity for newcomer immigrants to meet one another in a group activity. Youth learn about self-esteem and leadership skills while at the same time growing more trees and bushes. Additionally, the workshops help Torontonians to learn more about the upkeep and care of trees.



Camping At Albion Hills: by Victor Gomez.

It wasn't easy. Taking 40 newcomers and volunteers for 2 nights of camping in the Canadian wilderness. Certainly, it had its challenges; Twenty tents, 40 mattresses, five stoves, propane tanks, groceries, snacks—how would we get everything to the campground? How do you prepare 40 people who have never been camping with all the skills they would need to get started?



We did it through partnerships. Parks Canada helped us put on a “Learn to Camp” workshop and pointed us to their amazing “Learn to Camp” mobile app. Discount Truck loaned us a van to help us get everything out to the site. MEC. each made significant financial contributions.

[**Read More.**](#)

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