



**In This Edition...**

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- Computer Programs

**A New Vision for Newcomers**

Brampton Multicultural Community Centre (BMC) and Muslim Community Services (MCS)

Brampton Multicultural Community Centre (BMC) and Muslim Community Services (MCS) partnership represents a dynamic network of diverse professionals dedicated to enhance community potential by unlocking the knowledge and talents of Canadian newcomer communities. Our settlement services are designed to support Canadian newcomers in building a better future in the ever changing Canadian society.

The partnership was established in 1987 to provide Canadian newcomers with a wide range of settlement services and community engagement opportunities. As a leading partnership in the settlement sector, we provide newcomers to Peel Region with language training, career

exploration, community orientation opportunities.

**Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity...**

Our programs and services are planned to promote inclusion, equity, and diversity in our communities and workplaces. More precisely, our programs and services provide Canadian newcomers to Peel Region with friendly and non-judgmental spaces to discuss challenges and explore new options for their life in Canada.

**We are Located...**

3190 Ridgeway Drive Unit #35 Mississauga, ON L5L 5S8 Tel: 905-828-1328 Fax: 905-828-8439 Office Hours: Mon – Fri. (9:00am-4:30pm)	150 Central Park Drive Suite #107 Brampton, ON L6T 2T9 Tel: 905-790-8482 Fax: 905-790-8488 Office Hours: Mon – Thurs.(9:00am-8:30pm) Fri. (9:00am-4:30pm)
3075 Ridgeway Drive Unit# 5 Mississauga, ON L5L 5M6 Tel: 905-828-2001 Fax: 905-828-40008 Office Hours: Mon – Fri. (9:00am-4:30pm)	197 County Court Suite 303 Brampton, ON L6W 4P6 Tel: 905-790-8482 Fax: 905-874-6100 Office Hours: Mon – Fri. (9:00am-4:30pm)



**Programs & Services at MCS...**

**LINC**

- Free English Classes
- Free Childcare for Eligible Participants
- Bus Tickets for Eligible Participants

**FAMILY SUPPORT**

- Supportive Counselling
- Support for Children Exposed to Family Violence
- Prevention Education
- Information and Referral

**SETTLEMENT & INTEGRATION**

- Orientation
- Information
- Translation and Interpretation
- Job Board & Placement
- Interview & Job Search Techniques

**SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft Access
- Web Design
- Computer Technician
- Accounting Courses

**SENIOR PROGRAM**

- Cultural and Linguistic Support; Peer Support
- Monthly Guest Speakers on Different Topics of Interest
- Recreational & Social Activities



**Are You New to Canada and Need Help?**

Muslim Community Services (MCS) and Brampton Multicultural Community Centre (BMC) have been helping newcomers integrate into Canadian society for over 20 years. Services offered include settlement, employment, family counseling, English language and computer classes. Our mandate is to enhance the capacity of newcomers to participate more effectively in our communities.

**Great English communication skills can help you land that job...**

In today's job market more and more articles are being written by Employers stating the need for effective communicators in Canada's workplace. These effective communication skills help to foster good working relationships with co-workers, improve delivery of information to clients and customers and ultimately enhance the company's image to the public. With this need in mind, Muslim Community Services have developed a comprehensive Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program. With locations in Mississauga and Brampton, English classes are offered for levels 1 through 7 with a focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. For those

participants who have children ages 6 months – 6 years old, childcare is available to them while they learn English.

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## At BMC, we welcome all new immigrants

Mr. Ahmed Iqbal, Executive Director,  
Brampton Multicultural Community Centre (BMC)

### Executive Director Message

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we bring to you this new edition of BMC newsletter. BMC has a proud history of serving the diverse community of Peel. Over the course of more than twenty years we helped thousands of individuals and families overcome barriers that prevent them from integrating into society, whether they be economical, social or cultural barriers. Recently we have expanded our programs and services and initiated new ones in order to reach and serve the growing number of newcomers who choose Peel as their destination of choice. Our Multicultural Settlement and Education Program (MSEP) has expanded to include more schools in Brampton, and in March 2009 we launched the Library Settlement Partnership Program (LSP), which is a collaborative initiative with the Brampton Library.

Lately, the global recession has affected Canada due to which the unemployment rate has risen to 8.4%, the highest rate in 11 years according to Statistics Canada (2009). This will have a significant impact on our clients, many of whom face barriers to integrating into the local labour market. Our focus now is to make sure that these clients are supported and equipped with the skills and training that they need in order to remain competitive so that they can find decent jobs and provide for their families.

We hope that you will find this issue informative and welcome your suggestions and comments.

I wish you all an enjoyable and healthy fall.

### Newest BMC Program

BMC is proud to announce a unique and innovative program called **Library Settlement Partnership (LSP)** launched in February 2009 by Minister Kenney at the Chinguacousy Library Branch. LSP is a three way partnership between BMC, Brampton Library and Citizenship & Immigration Canada to support the settlement and integration of newcomers to Canada.

LSP Settlement Workers speak multiple languages and are formally trained on effectively determining and prioritizing clients' needs to provide relevant referrals to resources and services available within the library and wider community. Each month hundreds of immigrants are served with information and resources on: careers and employment, learning English or French, library materials in your language, housing for your family, schools, education, and training, health care, and much more.

### Chat and Chai

Join us every week for our new Chat and Chai sessions where you can network with other newcomers, practice your English, enjoy light refreshments, learn about library services, and discuss challenges you've been facing in Canada.

Chinguacousy Branch Mondays 12:30pm – 2:00pm  
South Fletchers Branch Wednesdays 2:00pm – 3:30pm

FOR MORE INFO: 647-302-0320  
647-302-0278



brakes to stop our progress. Indeed, thoughts define individual personality and reality. This shows that we can do anything if we make up our minds to do it. Henry Ford once said "if you think you can...or if you think you can't...you're right!"

**3 Cultivate Friendships:** Good friends play very important roles in our lives, especially in tough situations. They provide us with the emotional support and reduce our stress. They give us fresh perspectives to see difficulties differently. Friendships require development and maintenance. It can be maintained through trust and love. The exchange of love and trust with people shapes our life and enhances our wellbeing. More importantly, it fosters resilience, positive outlook and constructive interactions.

**4 Do Good:** Traditionally, people in difficult transitions are perceived as incapable of helping others. Others are expected to help them. This biased outlook has stripped individuals in difficult transitions from their confidence and promoted powerlessness and marginalization among them.

Peter Temes, the author of Power of Purpose: Living Well by Doing Good, begins with a profound statement: "the more you focus on helping others, the more you will succeed in reaching your goals." Doing good must be on our daily agenda. For example, as a newcomer to Canada it is advisable to take a proactive approach to your settlement and integration in Canadian society. Consider doing good to others instead of expecting other to do good for you. Offer others a lot of help and support and consider volunteering in your community and teaching others new skills.

**5 Learn from the Giants:** Lifelong learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is necessary for sustainable living. In today's fast learning organizations, workers must be prepared for continuous learning, growth and development. For example, internationally trained professionals might want to consider joining virtual communities to enhance their knowledge and keep updated with new directions in their professional fields. In addition to learning and skill training, virtual community interactions enable job market navigation for newcomer professionals. After all, coping with

tough transition in the 21<sup>st</sup> century has no standard prescriptions. It requires flexibility and openness to new ideas and innovative approaches.

### 6 Explore New Career Options:

As mentioned earlier, the rules of work games are changing in the new century. New technologies are breaking rules and new rules are emerging. Organizations are now seeking new ways to think, organize, communicate and work. Employers are looking for creative thinkers and fast learners. Traditional jobs focused on repetitive tasks are replaced with the need for accurate situational judgments and analytical skills. Instead of traditional career focus, newcomers to Canada are advised to explore new career pathways in this changing work environment. This shift will help newcomers build better futures in Canada.

### Computer Programs offered at BMC (905-790-8482)

Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Access  
A+ Computer Technician, Web Designer, Basic Accounting, ACCPAC