



# E-Mail Newsletter

DECEMBER 2012

## Office hours:

### Neepawa:

Resource  
Centre

290 Davidson

Monday 9-6

Tues-Fri

11:00 – 6:00

**All  
services  
are free  
of charge**

## Neepawa & Area Immigrant Settlement Services Services for people from around the world

### **What we do:**

We provide assistance to people who are learning to live in a new country. Settlement services help people develop skills and knowledge to participate in a new society.

### **Settlement Assistance:**

- Information and orientation about life in Canada and your community
- Help filling out forms such as: Manitoba Health, SIN, Manitoba Provincial Nominee, Permanent Resident, Criminal Record Check, etc.
- Support, information and assistance concerning immigration issues
- Advocacy referrals
- Referrals for education, employment and housing
- Commissioner of Oaths and Notary Public services

### **\*\*\*Guess What? We are on Facebook!\*\*\***

Look for us at "Neepawa and Area Settlement Services" on Facebook. We went live on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Friend us! And keep up to date daily on what's new and exciting.

Keep checking daily to see when your documents will be ready to be picked up at our office. We will not name you directly ... for confidentiality reasons but you will know when to come here and not to the RCMP office.

### **Advantages of a Library card?**

- \* **Free** high speed internet access computer time
- \* **Free** movie and music DVD rentals
- \* **Free** usage of books, magazines to practice your English skills
- \* The opportunity to save thousands of dollars borrowing books and learning "do it yourself" stuff around the house!

Kids love the library too! Make it a family event. Save some extra cash there too.

Best of all? If you live in Neepawa? The Library card is **free!!**

Go for it! Get a Neepawa Public Library card! And start saving money right away.



**\*\*\*Nee pawa and Area Settlement Services office will be closed for the holidays at one p.m. Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.\*\*\***

#### **Holiday Safety Tips - Keeping Kids Safe**

When planning for the holiday season, consider planning for a safe environment when family and friends gather. Read this [article](#) from SafeKids Canada for safe reminders to avoid unnecessary injury during the festive celebrations. Visit [www.activesafekidsmanitoba.ca](http://www.activesafekidsmanitoba.ca)

#### **Permanent Resident Card Renewal Tips**

During the 5 years that you have your Permanent Residence Card, it would be an excellent idea to keep a copy of every plane ticket you have used when you left Canada. Keep your documentation/plane tickets in an envelope in a safe place. That way, when it comes to to renew your card, you can advise CIC exactly how long you have been out of Canada (if at all) AND have the supporting documentation to prove it! ☺ And never throw away your Permanent Resident papers ... ever. Guaranteed you will need them one day. Promise!

#### **Winter Activities - Winter goes quickly when you "use" the snow**

WINTER PARK - Langford - Nee pawa on Hwy 16  
- has 10 km of Cross Country Ski Trails  
- has 6 km of Snow Shoe Trails  
- has a Toboggan Hill  
- has a warming cabin

Directions: East on #16 Highway for 6.5 km. Parking on the south side of the highway. If you would like to try Skiing or Snowshoeing, we can give you instruction and some equipment if you give us a minimum of 48 notice.  
Contact [mgamey@xplornet.ca](mailto:mgamey@xplornet.ca)

Youth group ages 6 – 18. Ski instruction and fun activities.  
Sundays 1:30-3:30. Cost is \$ 25. for the winter, Some equipment available to use  
Contact Paul Koshel 204-476-3084

**DANGER!! DO NOT POST PERSONAL INFO ON FACEBOOK !!!**

It has come to our attention that some of you have been posting personal information on your Facebook page.

This information is enough to advise a potential thief all they need to know to obtain credit in your name. And you may be responsible to pay for the bills the thief charged. The legal result of this is unbelievable and may end up costing you money for lawyers to help you straighten everything out for you. And that may not happen for years!

Identity thieves can even find a way steal away your home!

Identity theft is a form of stealing someone's *identity* in which someone pretends to be someone else by assuming that person's identity usually to access resources or obtain credit and other benefits in that person's name.

Do not post any of your credit card numbers, Immigration information, driver's license, your social insurance number, your birth certificate, your passport information or your Manitoba Health information.

So, if you have posted something on Facebook? Remove it right away! If you have to scan it to someone for Immigration purposes ... come see us. We can help you.

### **Free Morning Info Session for Newcomers**

#### **Location:**

Viscount Cultural Centre for the Arts  
293 Mountain Ave.  
Neepawa, MB

Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10 am–noon

Topic: Getting a Driver's License & Winter Driving in Manitoba  
Presenter: Norma Somers (Language Learning instructor)

Presented by Language Learning and the Viscount Cultural Council.

#### **Community Immigration Meetings:**

Each month, there is a Community Immigration Meeting attended by those who are wishing to participate in some way in the settlement of the newcomers to the area. This meeting has always been an open meeting to anyone who wish to attend and we would love to see you there. The next meeting will be held January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm at the Neepawa Public Library.

#### **Did you know:**

- **That if you hold a 5A Manitoba Driver's License, you still have to have a fully licensed driver with you at all times as you are still a beginner driver. It is an offence to do otherwise.**
  - **That you can sponsor your spouse to Canada in order to get them here quicker? But, first you must:**
    - **Receive your Province of Manitoba nomination/approval letter and;**
    - **Apply to be a Permanent Resident and include your spouse and children in that application.**
- There are additional costs in them coming this way but come in and get**

**the details!**

- **That when you extend your work permit, you must let Manitoba Health and Manitoba Public Insurance (car license and insurance) know as these dates are all tied to your permit!!**
- **That for those of you who arrived in Neepawa in June, July or August 2012 and still have not received your Manitoba Health cards ... we need you to come by our office so that we can correct this. Thanks!**
- **Worried that your medicals will soon be expiring? Come see us at the office. We can help.**

### **Rental Housing: no changes since last month**

**Neepawa** – 617-1<sup>ST</sup> Avenue, \$280.00 per person, 3 bedrooms to share. Includes fridge/stove/washer/dryer/dishwasher and internet. Contact Julia at 204-841-4806.

**Neepawa** – 3 bedroom house @5<sup>th</sup> and Mill Street. Fridge/Stove/Washer/Dryer/Dishwasher. \$1,000.00/month plus utilities. Plus Damage deposit of \$500.00. Lease starts Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. Call Kate for an appointment @204-841-4498.

**Neepawa** – 296 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, includes fridge/stove/washer/dryer. Utilities not included. 2 rooms for 2 people @\$800.00/month for the house. Contact Ladawan Wilier @204-871-0473 NOTE: Not furnished, Owner wanting to charge more for more people.

**Neepawa** – 302 Fourth Ave \$285 shared basement apartment includes utilities, internet, fridge/stove/washer/dryer/airconditioner. Call Caroline 204-476-4025. Available immediately. Basement suite shared with three Filipinos 1 work days 2 work nights.

**Minnedosa** – 1 room in basement/ 2 beds. Each bedroom has 2 beds. \$350 w/o car in winter \$400.00 with car in winter.

Fridge/stove/washer/dryer/dishwasher. Contact Mary @204-867-3827.

**Plumas** – 5 bedroom house includes fridge and stove. Garage with large yard. Utilities not included. \$700.00/month or \$250.00/person, minimum 5 persons. Call Martha 204-212-0807 or 204-808-6318.

**Plumas** – 2 bedroom house includes fridge/stove/washer/dryer/AC. Utilities not included. \$800.00 plus \$800 damage deposit. Contact Don and leave a message at 204-386-2634.

**Arden** – 4 bedroom house includes fridge/stove/washer/dryer. No utilities included. Rent is \$850.00 plus damage deposit of \$850.00. Call Don and leave a message at 204-386-2634.

**Gladstone** – 2 bedroom home. Includes 6 appliances, heated garage, front & back patio, no smoking or pets. Contact 204-385-2762 or egclarke@gladstone.ca.

### **INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM**

If you arrived in Canada after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 you must pass your I.E.L.T. test (International English Language Testing System) before applying to the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program. These are the levels that you must pass: Listening: 4.5, Reading: 3.5, Writing: 4, Speaking: 4.5

**Before you book your test, please go to the website for more detailed information @ [www.ieltscanada.ca](http://www.ieltscanada.ca). There you will see the application and payment form that will need to be faxed in.**

**There is also an IELTS practice test on their website as well. The tests are written at the Red River College, 2055 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg.**

**Fax: 1 519 748 6289**

**Test Fee: CDN \$285 effective January 1, 2013**

**Red River College is currently booking their General Training IELTS tests on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

### **Medical Services**

Hurray! You are now in Manitoba and are covered under the Manitoba Health Care Program. Unfortunately, the Health cards are taking a long time to be processed. But until you receive your health card in the mail, it is critical that you bring your passport and CPR papers to the Doctor's and/or hospital so you can be seen free of charge. Once you receive your purple Manitoba Health Card, keep it with you at all times. In your wallet or purse. Always.

Your Manitoba Health card expires on the same day as your work permit. Be sure to bring your new work permit to the Settlement Office as soon as you receive it so that your benefits can be updated. If you do not do this you will be charged for medical services.

### **Police Clearances**

Please be aware that when you include members of your family in your application for PR, police clearances from overseas must be included for your spouse and any children over the age of 18 years old along with your own.

### **Letter from your Editor:**

**This is a tough season who has loved ones far, far away at Christmas time. Take care of yourselves mentally, spiritually and physically. Be with your community and friends. Don't isolate. For those of you new to Canada? ... Enjoy your first white Christmas! Go tobogganing, sledding or skating? I would personally love to see you try shoeshoeing ☺ Have fun. From all of us to all of you, have a very Merry Christmas and an awesome New Year!**

**God bless.**

**Contact information:**

**Cheryl Campbell**

**Neepawa and Area Immigrant Settlement Services**

**290 Davidson Street, Neepawa**

**E-mail: [nadcoimmigrant@mymts.net](mailto:nadcoimmigrant@mymts.net)**

**Website: [www.neepawasettlement.com](http://www.neepawasettlement.com)**

**Facebook: NeepawaAndAreaSettlementServices**