

E-Mail Newsletter

AUGUST 2013 ISSUE #46

Office hours:

Neepawa:

Resource Centre

290 Davidson

Monday 9-6

Tues-Fri

11:00 - 6:00

All services are free of charge

This is your Newsletter too!

What would you like to learn about?

Drop in and tell us what you would like to add in next month's newsletter

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, Criminal Record Check, Canada Child Tax Credit etc.
- Review of Manitoba Provincial Nominee and Permanent Resident applications, Criminal Record Check, etc.

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- Support, information and assistance concerning immigration issues
- Advocacy referrals
- Referrals for education, employment and housing
- Commissioner of Oaths and Notary Public services

Confidentiality

Dictionary definition:

- 1. in strict privacy or secrecy
- 2. imparting private matters
- 3. having another's trust or confidence
- 4. Limited to persons authorized to use information, documents, etc., so classified.

When you and our office co-signed your "Personal Information Authorization and Consent" form, we guaranteed your confidentiality. It is vital to each one of us to protect vulnerable people and their information from general viewing by people to whom the information has no bearing. An example would be your Social Insurance Number, MPNP application ... even your phone number. Each one of us have signed a "Non-Disclosure and Privacy Policy Agreement" with our Employer. The protection of your confidential information is vital to the interests and successes of Neepawa Settlement Services. We promise to keep your information safe and confidential ... and we mean it!

Congratulations, did you receive your nomination from the Province? We have the list of documents that you will need to submit for your Permanent Residency by the due date on your letter. Come on it for the list ... we can help.

Guess What? We are on Facebook!

Search for us at "Neepawa and Area Settlement Services" on Facebook. Like us and get updated daily. However, our Facebook is for information purposes only please. Comments will be removed.

ARE YOU INSIDE THE BOX OR OUTSIDE THE BOX OR ARE YOU GOING TO LISTEN TO THE RUMOURS?

When a government develops a process for applications, they do so for particular reasons. They expect most people to follow these processes, fill out all the information and supply the requested documents, to stay 'inside the box'. The government system is set up to process those applications that are 'Inside the Box' ... the fastest. But peoples' lives are different and not everyone fits 'inside the box'. That's OK, applications that are 'outside the box' may still processed but they may take more time. Or the applications will probably be returned to you, denied as missing documentation.

So, just remember that everyone's application is unique and they are processed individually. There is no predicting when you will get your Provincial Nominee or the Permanent Residency. We know that everyone wants things to be done as quickly as they can.

We frequently get asked questions such as:

- 1) If my spouse or family is living in Canada will that speed up my PR application? The answer is NO. Honestly, it makes no difference to the government whether your family is living in Canada or not. They are concerned that you have provided all the information they requested, accurately and honestly. Remember that on all the applications, the applicant signs that the information they are provided is truthful and accurate. The government processes take their own time and there are other factors such as vacation time, strikes, number of applications that all effect processing times.
- 2) Do we have to get all the documents they ask for? The answer is YES. They are asking for these documents for a reason. The reality is that 99.9% of applicants are able to get all the documents requested. Sometimes, for one reason or another, an applicant is unable to get a document. In these cases, the applicant must show a legitimate reason for not being able to get the requested document. In other words that you have applied for what was required and could not obtain.
- 3) Do we have to have Police Clearances? The answer is YES? Remember you are asking Canada to accept you as a Permanent Resident. It is perfectly understandable as they need to know if an applicant has any outstanding legal issues in other countries they have been in.

Finally, the quickest way to get your application processed is to complete it accurately, provide all the documents requested and proof or legitimate reason why you can't provide them, and get your application in before the deadlines. You don't want to take the chance of having your application delayed or worse, denied.

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Medical Services

"Welcome to Neepawa" Rotary Barbeque

The Neepawa Rotary and Neepawa Settlement Services would like to welcome our newcomers and their families and also give our residents this opportunity to meet and learn more about our newcomers and them about us.

<u>Free Flea Market from 10 am - 1 pm at</u> <u>St. Dominic's Church - September 7th</u>

To start out the day there will be a Free Flea Market at St. Dominic's Church on First Street for the new residents of Neepawa.

Residents of Neepawa are encouraged to donate unneeded clean clothing and household items. Especially winter clothing and gear. If you have larger items to donate, please bring a picture of your item to the Church. Anyone who has anything to donate, kindly drop off your items from 5 pm to 6 pm at the Church's basement on Thursday September 5th and Friday September 6th. Anyone who could volunteer in delivering a large item for someone, it would be appreciated if you could give the Church your name.

Rotary BBQ at Rotary Park & Bird Sanctuary

After your visit to the Flea Market at St. Dominic's Church, come to the free BBQ hosted by the Neepawa Rotary and the Neepawa Settlement Services. There are lots of children activities planned to begin at 2 p.m. There will be roasted pork, potato salad, rice, beans, dessert and beverages. All free!

Food, entertainment and the music begins at 4:15 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. We will have bands, dancers, singers, face painters, balloon artists, a bouncy castle and even a magician this year! Let us not forget to mention there will be karaoke as well. Learn how to husk and cook your own Manitoba corn on the cob. Delicious! Bring your lawn chairs and perhaps a blanket in case we run out of tables.

The park is south on Brown Avenue and across the walking bridge. Or travel South on First Avenue approximately 1 km. Parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged.

And if September the 7th decides to be a rainy day ... the BBQ will take place at St. Dominic's Church on First Street.

We look forward to seeing everyone there. Come meet your neighbours and learn about the exciting growth of Neepawa. Everyone is welcome. New residents of Neepawa and those of you who have lived here longer ... let's have a barbeque!

Speaking of barbequing ...

This resource, Cooking with a Barbeque, was produced courtesy of the Office of the Fire Marshal, Province of New Brunswick.

Cooking on a Barbecue

Barbecuing with charcoal and propane

Portable charcoal grills are designed for outdoor use. They are dangerous when used in a confined area. Gas grills may be specially designed for indoor use, but they must be carefully installed to allow toxic gases to vent outside.

Charcoal grills

Only charcoal briquettes should be used in charcoal grills. To ignite charcoal briquettes, use charcoal lighter fluids that are specially manufactured for this purpose. The use of any other flammable liquid is not recommended. Never use gasoline as a charcoal lighter fuel. To light charcoal briquettes, sprinkle them with charcoal lighter fluid and allow it to soak in. Wait approximately 10 minutes. Never add additional fluid after igniting your barbecues. Light briquettes with a long match or a mechanical lighter designed for barbecues. Keep your barbecue uncovered during start up and never lean over the grill during ignition. Place your barbecue away from combustibles before igniting. When cooking on a patio or deck, ensure that your barbecue can't tip onto combustible materials. Before storing your charcoal barbecue, dispose of the ashes by soaking them with water and placing them in a covered metal container. The use of barbecues on apartment building balconies is not recommended.

Gas grill

Purchase a gas grill that meets standards of approval. If your grill needs assembly, follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. If you need assistance, contact your nearest gas grill retailer. Before using, check for leaks by applying a mixture of soap and water to all connections, hoses and the gas cylinder head. If bubbles form, you have a leak. Tighten the connections or replace the defective parts. A trained professional should replace defective parts. Before igniting your grill, make sure the lid is open to prevent gas build up. Use the igniter button or a lighter designed for barbecues to light your grill. Never ignite a gas grill with a match or cigarette lighter. You will be burned. Keep your grill away from combustibles when cooking. When cooking on a deck, ensure that your grill will not tip over. Gas grills should not be used on the balconies of apartment buildings. The danger of toxic fumes, explosions and accidental fire spreading to other apartments is too great. When storing your gas grill, make sure the tank and the grill are both turned off. Never store a gas grill indoors with the tank attached. If you plan to store your grill inside — remember to remove the tank first. Follow these steps when moving your tank:

- Go directly to the refill station and home.
- Keep the tank in an upright position at all times.
- Keep a window open to avoid breathing toxic fumes.
- Make sure your tank is equipped with a safety plug.
- Never leave a tank in an enclosed space such as the trunk of your car.
- Never smoke while refilling, reconnecting or while transporting the tank. CNB 99467-6-NB Office of the Fire Marshal

RBC Banking News:

Understanding the costs of buying and owning a home

Expense wise, there's more to owning a home than just the mortgage payment every month. Home ownership costs fall into two categories: one-time costs and regular recurring costs.

When it comes to some of the one-time costs, here are a few examples you can expect to pay at or around the time you purchase your home. You will incur closing costs and additional home costs like legal and appraisal fees (your lawyer will be able to give you details). Whether you've hired movers or you do it yourself, there will be expenses associated with your move. Then you need to think of all the things you want and need to make your new home feel like home. Everything from decorating the interior to exterior enhancements. These things all add up!

As for recurring or ongoing costs, here are some of the things you can expect to pay monthly: your mortgage payment is probably your largest monthly cash expense (depending on the amount of your mortgage, the term, rate and amortization). Work with your mortgage specialist to help determine what's right for you and your budget. You'll also be responsible to pay your property tax bill each year, although many home owners choose to include their taxes as part of their mortgage payment. You will require property insurance to be in place at time of your purchase, but it is important to remember that this is an ongoing expense as long as you own your home. For those that are purchasing a condo, your costs will most likely also include a monthly fee to help pay for maintenance and upkeep of the common and public areas. Of course, in addition to everything, there are utilities and regular maintenance costs. A well maintained property helps to preserve your home's market value and enhances the neighborhood. Maintenance can range from lawn care and snow removal to roof repairs and regular heating system maintenance.

To learn more about the cost of home ownership, visit our website or see us at your local RBC branch for great advice!

Jason Epp
Branch Manager, RBC Royal Bank
204-476-7301
jason.epp@rbc.com

The allergy epidemic: Are Filipino children at greater risk?

http://www.pilipino-express.com/news/2111-the-allergy-epidemic.html

A new Honourary Consul General for MB, upon taking the position of Honorary Consul General, Orli Marcelino will handle consular matters such as visa and passport processing.

Orlando Marcelino Winnipeg, MB 204-880-9788 orli.marcelino@yahoo.com

New Hon. Consul General for MB

www.pilipino-express.com

The **Neepawa ENTRY Program** provides important information to newcomers about Neepawa and Canada. The program provides information over a four-week period for Permanent Resident newcomers.

Weekly themes of *Welcome to Neepawa*, *Health and Safety, Employment and Education*, and *Canadian Laws* are taught by Settlement Workers, myself, along with help of translators. Once a week, our office and community presenters help participants better understand the most important information. There will be free handouts for you to take home.

The ENTRY program is a great place for newcomers to learn about their new community. Our classes will begin sometime in August 2013. You may receive a Letter of Invitation from our office or watch out for a sign-up sheet to attend. I really hope you choose to come. Each class will only be 1.5 to 2 hours at the most and free daycare will be available.

Please be advised that our office will be closed on Monday, August 5th for Civic Holiday

Letter from your Editor

"Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Abraham Lincoln

I am always amazed at the happiness of our newcomers. Even after several years of not seeing their families. Still you remain happy. You have made up your minds to make the best of your situation. I salute you and your families for your sacrifice for a better life!

Please be sure to introduce me to your family when they do arrive in Canada. It would be my honour to meet them.

God bless.

Contact information: Cheryl Campbell
Neepawa and Area Immigrant Settlement Services
290 Davidson Street, Neepawa, MB
E-mail: nadcoimmigrant@mymts.net
Website: www.neepawasettlement.com

Facebook: NeepawaAndAreaSettlementServices

