



E-Mail Newsletter

AUGUST 2011

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 22

Office hours:

Neepawa:

Resource
Centre

290 Davidson

Monday to
Friday

11:00 – 6:00

Minnedosa:

and

Gladstone:

Please call for
an
appointment

**Services
available
in:**

English

Filipino

**All
services
are free
of charge**

**Program
paid for
by the
Province
of
Manitoba**

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 for education, employment and housing
- Cultural Diversity Training
- Commissioner of Oaths and Notary Public services

Rental Housing:

Neepawa – suites available at Churchill Block – contact Debbie at 841-1298.

Neepawa – bedroom in shared house \$250.00 per month, everything included. Call 212-0689 for more information.

Neepawa – bedroom in shared house \$300.00 per month, everything included. Call 704-0114 for more information.

Neepawa – bedroom in shared house \$225.00 per month, everything included. Call Andrea at 841-0842.

Buyer Beware!!

I have been hearing about people who have been taken advantage of by scams lately. One common scam is with vehicles that are listed online. Very often these cars will be at very reasonable prices. Please do not send anyone money for a vehicle that you have not physically seen! A picture is not good enough. There have been cases where a person has sent money to ship a vehicle and nothing arrives. They lose their money. Remember, if a deal looks too good to be true...it probably is!

Volunteer opportunity:

Every August, Canada Safeway raises funds for Muscular Dystrophy Canada's mobility grants program. Volunteers in the stores sit at an information booth, and depending on the activities planned by the store manager, can assist with bake sales, raffle ticket selling, cooking hot dogs, or even bagging groceries. We are planning to be in the store on Saturday, August 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, August 14 from noon to 5 p.m. Every volunteer receives a t-shirt and a free lunch. For more information contact: Kristen at 204-783-9863

English classes:

English classes are being held at the UFCW Training Centre, 244 Hamilton Street in Neepawa every Saturday from 4:30 to 7:30.

Paluwagan:

This is a popular way to save money in the Philippines that I have recently learned about. I would like to warn everyone that while this may be acceptable practice in the Philippines, it is not a sound way to save money in Canada. As many of you know, the Provincial Nominee Program is assessing finances before approving applications and will not accept being part of a *paluwagan* as part of "total worth". In Canada our banking system is 100% safe and I would encourage anyone who is thinking about joining a *paluwagan* to re-consider and put their money in a bank account instead. The money is guaranteed to be yours, plus interest!

I talked to Dan Delfin at RBC about this practice and here is what he had to say: "It happens many times that people lose their money in *paluwagan*. I have experienced this myself with my team office in the Philippines. It is very risky and usually only a few benefit from it. The majority lose!"

CIC has new forms for Permanent Resident applications:

As of July 18, CIC is no longer accepting the old form for PR applications. The new forms ask for almost all the same information but in a different format. They are also requesting that the new forms be completed on a computer and validated. When you validate the form, all the information is turned into barcodes that will be printed on the application form. For those of you who have completed the forms and not yet submitted to Buffalo, you must re-enter the information into the new forms. The "additional Family Information" and Schedule 4 remain the same. The PR application and Schedule 1 (now called Schedule A) must be on the new forms. If you have not yet received instruction on this, please come to the Settlement office for assistance. For those of you who do not have a printer, we have set up a computer and printer at the office that you may use.

Here are the links to the new forms:

Permanent resident application:

http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM0008ENU_2D.pdf

Schedule A:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/kits/forms/IMM5669E.PDF>

Useful Information Links:

Please visit our website for these and many more resources.

Message from the Editor:

I hope you all get out and enjoy some nice summer weather!

**Contact information:**

Marian Hijkoop – 476-2055 or Cell: 841-0229
Neepawa and Area Immigrant Settlement Services
290 Davidson Street, Neepawa
E-mail: nadcoimmigrant@mymts.net
Website: www.neepawasettlement.com