



E-Mail Newsletter

MAY 2011

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 19

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

Please note: Due to increasing lack of space in the cafeteria, service will no longer be available at Springhill Farms. If you are unable to visit the office during the posted times, please call to make other arrangements.

Rental Housing:

Minnedosa – 3 bedroom fully furnished house available now. \$595.00 (negotiable) per month plus utilities. Contact Darcy at 867-3131 or 867-4658.

Minnedosa – bedroom and bathroom; separate entrance. \$300.00 per month; contact Melissa at 867-5190.

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 – 1 bedroom in shared house; everything included \$375.00 per month contact numbers: 476-2734 or 476-2182.

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

Introducing: Settlement Services website

After a year in the making, we have our own website! Please visit it and let me know what you think. Your suggestions on what you would find helpful to be included are welcome. <http://www.neepawasettlement.com/index.html>

Very Important information about Implied Status!

Once you have applied to extend your work permit, the “implied status” is only valid if you remain in Canada. Please do not exit the country until you have received your new permit. You will have difficulty coming back!!

Rules about rent increases:

The Residential Tenancies Branch administers or is responsible for *The Residential Tenancies Act*, *The Life Leases Act* and *The Condominium Act* in Manitoba. They also investigate, mediate and make decisions on disputes between landlords and tenants over:

- security deposits
- repairs
- the terms and conditions of a tenancy agreement
- notices to move, including notice for non-payment of rent and noise
- privacy
- payment of utility bills

Each year the Government sets a guideline of how much landlords can increase rent. Landlords can apply to them to increase their rent above the guideline. They review the application and any objections the tenants have to the rent increase. Then, they make a decision on what the rent should be. They also investigate cases where landlords increase rent without proper notice or without first applying for an increase.

Click on this link for this year's guidelines:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/cca/rtb/rentincreaseguideline/2011rentguideline.html>

Click on this link for more detailed information on renting:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/cca/rtb/rent101/movingout.html>

Sponsoring Family:

You can sponsor your spouse, parents and grandparents directly through the Family Class at CIC. The only way to sponsor all other relatives is through the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program and they must meet certain criteria. You are eligible to apply under the MPNP Family Support priority assessment stream if you:

- Have a close relative who is an established resident of Manitoba and who is willing and able to support your settlement in the province.
- Meet the minimum requirements for age, education, work experience and language ability

Family Support stream minimum requirements:

Age: You are between the ages of 21 and 49.

Education/training: You have completed post-secondary education of at least one academic year and received a diploma or certificate.

Work experience: You have at least two years of full-time work experience within the past five years.

Language: You have enough English or French to get a job in Manitoba in your intended occupation soon after you arrive. For an objective assessment of your English skills take an IELTS test (International English Language Testing System) and submit your score with your application.

Adaptability: You can demonstrate your intention and ability to establish successfully in Manitoba based on your:

- connection to Manitoba, including settlement supports from family
- employability, based on your training and work experience related to your intended occupation, including any license or certification required in your country of residence
- Settlement funds. Applicants should have at least C\$10,000 plus C\$2,000 for each accompanying dependant.

Update on Provincial Nominee applications:

In the last couple of months we have assisted over 80 workers to submit their Provincial Nominee applications. Congratulations to all of you who have completed this in such good time! There are still about 20 more that need to be submitted in the next 2 months to be able to have them processed on time for extending work permits before expiry. So, if you have not yet started on your paper work, please do! Once you receive your Provincial Nominee approval you will need to apply to extend your work permit. We can do this for you online at our office. You will need to bring with you:

- Your passport and work permit
- Your Provincial Nominee letter of Approval
- Proof of having an immigration medical
- A letter from your employer offering you continued employment
- Payment of \$150.00 – the easiest way is with a credit card or at the bank with cash

Reminder about drinking alcohol and driving!!

If you are caught driving while under the influence of alcohol, it is a criminal offence. To make this clear...if you have been charged with a criminal offence, you will not get Permanent Residence. You will have to leave Canada at the end of your work permit. Please do not take this chance!

Neepex 2011 – Trade and Cultural Fair:

A chance to learn what your community is all about!

Location: Yellowhead Centre

Date: Friday May 13th 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and

Saturday May 14th 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Admission fee: \$3.00

Useful Information Links:

Please visit our website for these and many more resources!

Message from the Editor:

I am starting to get a lot of questions about sponsoring family lately, so I have included the basic information here. Remember, you must be a permanent resident for 1 full year before you can apply to sponsor your family. If you need more details, please come and see me and we can discuss your situation.

We would like to host a Social Event this summer to help bring all community members together; "new" and "old". If you have an idea of what you think would be fun, please stop by and tell us, or send me an email. Your suggestions are welcome!



Contact information:

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Neepawa and Area Immigrant Settlement Services

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