

Central Okanagan Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Council
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
June 2014

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is an agreement among the undersigned representative cross-sectoral community stakeholders to support the continuing development of the Central Okanagan, British Columbia as a community that supports and embraces cultural diversity.

COMMITMENT TO A COMMON GOAL AND SHARED VALUES

Respecting the rights of all individuals under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Canadian Human Rights Act and recognizing the First Nations Indigenous people for their history, contribution, and value to our community, we, the undersigned, are committed to the further development of the Central Okanagan as an inclusive, welcoming, and vibrant community where immigrants can realize their full potential, racism is eliminated, and cultural diversity is valued and celebrated. This common goal is supported by commitment to the following shared values:

Diversity: We acknowledge and respect all ethnic, cultural, religious, and linguistic groups that strengthen the social fabric of our community.

Equality: We promote the protection of the rights of all individuals and groups to participate equally in our democratic society and to access opportunities for the optimal well-being and healthy development of all children, youth, and adults.

Social Justice: We encourage active citizenship in the social, economic, cultural, and political life of our community. We reject all forms of violence, harassment, and discrimination.

Social Inclusion: We promote the sense of belonging, acceptance, recognition, and being valued as a contributing member of society in the Central Okanagan's economic, social, cultural, and political life. We encourage attachment to workplace environments in our community where everyone can feel welcomed, supported, and realize their full potential.

Social Cohesion: We support building social cohesion through a reciprocal process where everyone in the Central Okanagan appreciates each other's similarities and learns about, adapts to, and respects each other's differences. The social fabric of our community is strengthened by the contribution of all its members.

Based on our common goal and shared values, we, the undersigned community partners, support the creation and ongoing activities of the Central Okanagan Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Council whose purpose is to provide indirect services that bring about a new



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form of collaboration at the community level related to newcomer settlement and integration through:

- engaging local service providers and other institutions in newcomers' integration process;
- supporting community-level research and strategic planning; and
- improving the coordination of effective services that facilitate immigrant settlement and integration.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was approved by consensus by the Central Okanagan Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) Council members. Each signatory to this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) agrees to uphold the common goal and shared values contained herein.

Member Name	Position	Organization
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Signature	Date
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