



**CULTURAL  
COALITION**  
OF CHATHAM-KENT


Ontario East Municipal Conference  
Kingston, ON

# **CIRRO in Chatham-Kent**

September 17, 2009

Maureen Geddes, MBA C.H.R.P.  
Past-President to CCC-K Board

# Agenda

- 1. Chatham-Kent**
  - 2. Community Newcomer Agencies**
  - 3. CCC-K - Mission, Strategy and Goals**
  - 4. Past and Current Projects**
  - 5. Key Challenges**
  - 6. Where to from here?**
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Google

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Click to zoom out



CHATHAM-KENT, ONTARIO

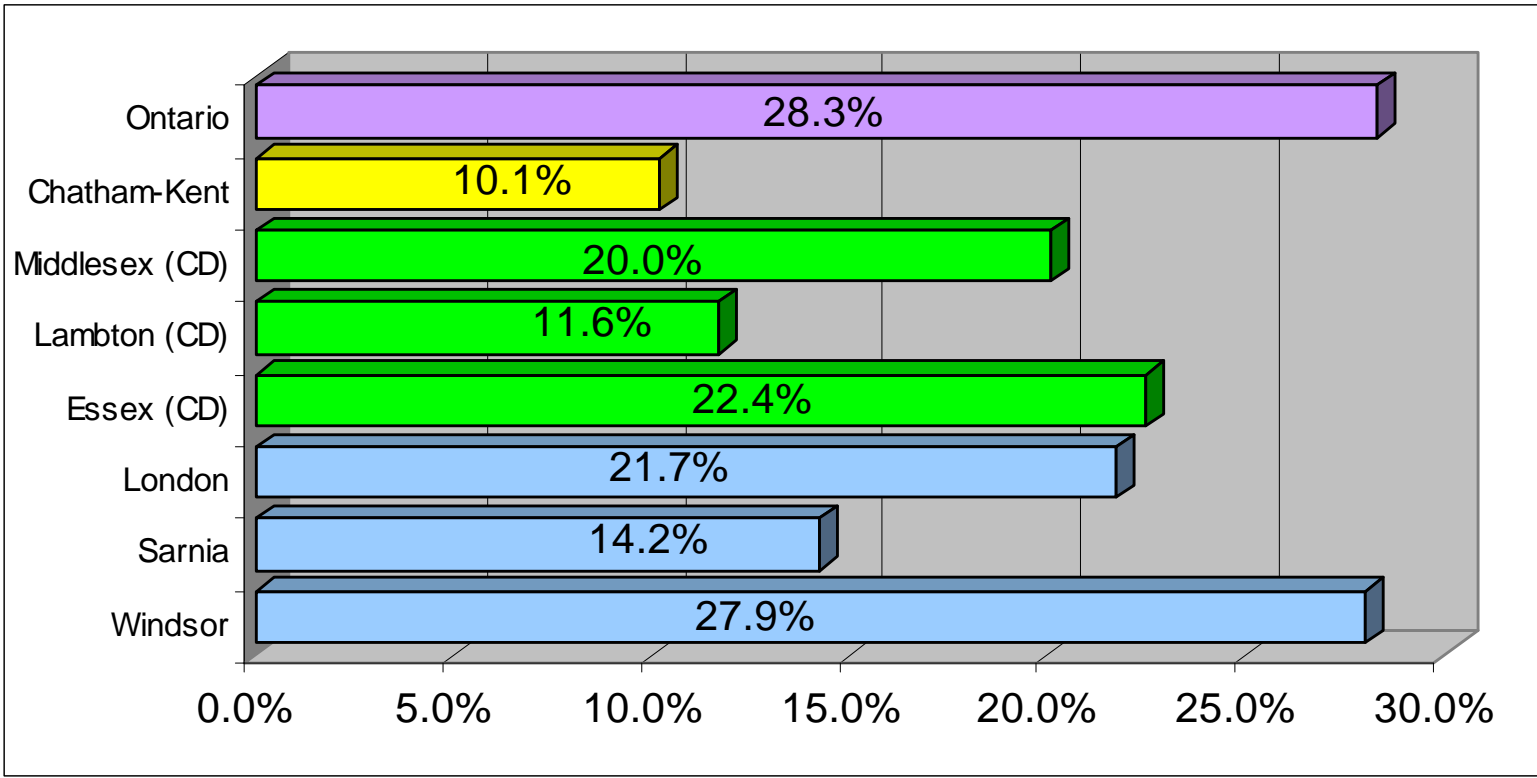
# Welcome to Chatham-Kent Culture & Diversity Video

Chatham-Kent, CAN Online



# % Immigrant Population Comparison

*Source: Statistics Canada Census of Population, 2006 20% profile, Census Subdivision data;  
This chart was produced by the Municipality of Chatham Kent*



In comparison to surrounding counties and cities, Chatham-Kent has the lowest percent of immigrants. There were *1025 new immigrants (2001-2006)*.

# Immigrants to Chatham-Kent

Period of Immigration	Number of Immigrants
Before 1961	3,690
1961 to 1970	1,395
1971 to 1980	1,505
1981 to 1990	1,460
1991 to 2000	1,745
2001 to 2006	1,035
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,830</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2008b from CBAR Report, UofWindsor

## ***Municipal Council Strategic Direction 3***

***We will diversify and grow Chatham-Kent's population by recruiting and retaining recent immigrants, newcomers, young professionals and active retirees from major Canadian centres.***

Goal 3.1 We will establish a leadership role in the support of immigrant needs that will directly contribute to a net increase of 1,000 new immigrants and newcomers into our community.

Goal 3.2 We will establish and implement a strategy involving community partners that will attract at least 50 new active retired families to our community.

Goal 3.3 We will conduct market research focused on bringing young professionals and entrepreneurs to Chatham-Kent.


# Immigrant Service Providers

- **Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent (CCC-K)**
    - **Unique partnership with ACFO of London-Sarnia**
  - **Adult Language and Learning (ALL)**
  - **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)**
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# Present Immigrant Services in Chatham-Kent

- Culture and Social Evenings
  - Settlement-specific Workshops
  - Newcomers Resource Centre
  - Language Instruction for Newcomers (LINC ) Levels 1-5
  - Host Program
  - Job Search Workshops
  - English as a Second Language (ESL)
  - Early Years/Best Start Program
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# Immigration Settlement and Adaptation Programs (ISAP)

- **ISAP services are also available in:**
    - **Wheatley**
    - **Ridgetown**
    - **Blenheim**
  - **Languages served:**
    - **Low Speaking German**
    - **Spanish**
    - **Arabic**
    - **Vietnamese**
    - **French**
    - **Mandarin/Cantonese (coming soon)**
- 


# What is the CCC-K?




- Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent: a community-based non-for-profit organization
- Our mission is *to welcome, integrate and support all newcomers and cultural groups to Chatham-Kent*

# Our Objective

Our overall objective is to provide education, counseling and other support services for refugees and immigrants, including language instruction, employment training, job search workshops, translation services and information on Canadian culture and life.


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# What Does the CCC-K Do?


- Offer information and referral services to newcomers and service providers
  - Business development training and settlement services to newcomers
  - Content development for the Welcome Newcomers Portal ([www.chatham-kent.ca/newcomers](http://www.chatham-kent.ca/newcomers))
  - Assist with preparation of job search tools such as resumes and cover letters
  - Provide public awareness and outreach
  - Assist with the formation and promotion of cultural communities
  - Provide volunteer opportunities
  - And much more...
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# Our Strategic Plan

*Our current strategic directions for 2012 include:*

- Providing programs and services that enable newcomers to fully contribute to the economic development of Chatham-Kent
  - Operating effectively independent of government funding
  - Having a committed board and staff operating at a highly professional level
  - Being a Canadian leader in the nurturing of rural and smaller communities
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# Educational Events

- **The Multicultural Heart of Chatham-Kent**  
*March 2004*
  - **Welcoming Immigrants and Newcomers Forum**  
*October 2004*
  - **Living Your Dream for International Medical Graduates**  
*January 2005*
- 


# Educational Events

- **Welcoming Workplaces: Winning Workplaces Forum**  
*November 2007*
  - **Community Immigrant Retention in Rural Ontario (CIRRO) Kick-off Workshop**  
*January 2009*
  - **Conference Board of Canada – Leader’s Roundtable on Immigration Spring Conference**  
*April 2009*
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# CBAR Report

- Commissioned the University of Windsor's Odette School of Business' Centre for Business Advancement and Research to write a report titled “**Analysis of Immigration Trends in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent**”.
  - The main objective of this report is to provide the Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent with a better understanding of the immigration patterns within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent
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# CBAR Report Recommendations


- Establish a Newcomer Council
  - Conduct a Newcomer Settlement and Support Research Study
  - Increase access to newcomer-specific employment and educational services
  - Increase cultural events and supports for the development of cultural communities
  - To better understand the dynamics of immigrant retention in Chatham-Kent – implement arrival interviews and exist surveys
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# Visulink

- **Visulink Pilot Project**

- A series of videophones to connect newcomers from anywhere in the world, to anywhere in South Western Ontario with settlement services in the language of their choice

## Videophone Locations:

- FCJ Refugee Centre
  - New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc.
  - Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent/United Way of Chatham-Kent
  - Tilbury Information and H.E.L.P. Centre
  - Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County
  - Migrant Workers Ministry
- 



## Interpretation Services

Through Visulink you can access provincially certified interpreters for various assignments such as:

- Administering emergency or client services
- Immigration and refugee services
- Legal/court proceedings
- Medical/business appointments
- Driver's test

Available in more than 50 different languages and dialects, including:

- |             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| - Arabic    | - Polish  |
| - Cantonese | - Punjabi |
| - French    | - Serbian |
| - Korean    | - Spanish |
| - Mandarin  | - Urdu    |

### Service Rates

Interpretation: \$35.00 + GST per hour (2 hours minimum)

\*\*\*Rate will vary due urgency of the request within a 24 hour period\*\*\*

Interpretation Services provided by:



*Do you work with clients whose English is their additional language?*

*Are you looking for a cost effective and efficient way to get interpretation services?*

*Are you a newcomer to Chatham-Kent looking to access settlement services in your preferred language?*

*When in an emergency, do you require quick access to interpretation services?*

*When servicing clients, do you feel useful information is not understood due to language barriers?*

**VISULINK IS YOUR SOLUTION!**

Sponsored By:



 Ontario

### What is Visulink?

Visulink will connect newcomers from anywhere in the world, to anywhere in Southwestern Ontario with settlement and business development counseling in the language of their choice. In addition, Visulink offers a cost effective way to connect to interpretation services to access businesses with specific language skills.

#### Benefits:

- Face to face communication with translators and counselors
- Reduces or eliminates travel expenses
- Assistance for the hearing-impaired through sign language
- Provide skills and knowledge to adapt to Canadian living and culture

### To access services in Chatham-Kent contact:



*"A mission to welcome, integrate and support all cultural groups and newcomers to Chatham-Kent"*

425 McNaughton Ave. West

P.O. Box 606

Chatham, Ontario, N7M 5K8

Phone: 519-354-0430 ext. 254

Fax: 519-354-9511

Visulink Number: (519) 963-8840

Email: [culturalcoalition@kent.net](mailto:culturalcoalition@kent.net)

Website: [www.ccck.ca](http://www.ccck.ca)

# *Key Challenges*

- Small community cultural groups
  - people move to where they know people
- Public transit between geographically diverse communities
- Chicken & egg game for funders – “show us the immigrants” in order to provide services ...until CIRRO
- TNT (Turf ‘n’ Territory)

# *Where to from here?*

- Community Immigrant Retention in Rural Ontario (CIRRO) – 6 month intern
  - C-K Newcomer Committee
  - Workplace Communication in Canada (WCC)  
<http://www.ryerson.ca/ce/wcc> with Ryerson University, St. Clair College, Union Gas Ltd.
  - SWO Newcomer Employer Network
  - Conference Board of Canada Leader's Roundtable on Immigration – continued partnership 2009-2010
  - A Multicultural Thanksgiving
  - Membership Drive
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# Cultural Coalition of Chatham-Kent

## Contact Information

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