



The Host Post

Spring 2010

PEI Association for Newcomers To Canada

The Host Post is also available on our website at www.peianc.com.

Welcome to our Executive Director, Craig Mackie



On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors at the PEIANC, we would like to extend a warm welcome to Craig Mackie. In January, Craig replaced Kevin Arsenaault as the Executive Director at the PEIANC. His unique experience, skills, and expertise will no doubt have a positive impact on the settlement and integration of newcomers to PEI.

Over the past 35 years, Craig has spent most of his time working in radio, including 16 years in the Canadian Arctic working for the CBC Northern Service. Along with his wife and three sons, Craig lived and worked in Canada's Northern Territories providing information and entertainment to various communities. More recently, Craig has operated his own consulting business in PEI. When not working, you can usually find Craig at the Curling Club or teaching Taoist Tai Chi to interested Islanders.

Craig is looking forward to working at the PEIANC. "I believe the contribution newcomers can make to PEI and to Canada is important and valuable." And from his work here so far, we know Craig will be important and valuable to PEI's newcomers.



Women's Happiness Group Sleigh Ride Event

On March 10th, 36 women from various countries including El Salvador, China, Japan, Venezuela, Peru, France, Cuba and Afghanistan, gathered together for a Sleigh Ride - a true Canadian winter outdoor adventure that people of all ages can enjoy!



We visited Great Northern Adventures, a 110 acre farm in Mt. Herbert, located just outside of Charlottetown. It was a great opportunity for everyone to get out and see PEI's countryside while learning about Canadian farm life. We enjoyed the beautiful country scenery and of course, the animals. We laughed, shivered, and sang songs. It was a lot of fun for everyone!

When the sleigh ride was over, the group enjoyed fresh cupcakes and hot chocolate by a woodstove to warm up. We also went to the petting zoo to feed the horses, sheep and goats. It was a great experience for everyone. There were no language barriers, just good times with new friends.



Photo by: Marilenne Ureña



Winter Host Event Brookvale Winter Activity Park



On March 6th, over 100 newcomers, volunteers, and PEIANC staff piled onto 2 buses headed for Brookvale Provincial Ski Park for our annual Winter Host Event. The ski trails and the tubing hill were covered in fresh snow that had fallen the week before. All of the participants were very excited to get out and enjoy the sunny day! And they did...

For many newcomers, this was their first experience either cross-country skiing, tubing or both. What better way to welcome someone to Canada than to show them that while winters here are cold, they are also a lot of fun! We

heard screams coming from the tubing hill as the tubes zoomed down. We also heard laughter as people tried to get up that first incline on the ski trails, and ended up on the ground instead. But, when the activities were over and everyone warmed up in the lodge with hot chocolate and snacks, there were smiles all around. It was an exhausting but exhilarating day for all of us. No doubt there will be stories to tell for years to come. Thanks so much to all of the staff and volunteers at Brookvale and the PEIANC who helped to make this day so special for so many newcomers!

The PEIANC Host Events provide newcomers the opportunity to get out and enjoy what PEI has to offer, while meeting and interacting with people from Canada and around the world. Our next event will be held sometime this spring.



Photo by: Marilenne Ureña

Welcome to our newest members of PEIANC!



Brad Murray
ISL



Greg Anderson
MEP



Verity Kislingbury
Program Support



Rosalie Murphy
Communications

Farewell to....

Joe O'Malley, Joey Jeffrey, Launa Gauthier, & Jennifer MacArthur who have left the PEIANC. Best of luck!

Welcome Back...

Brianne! Brianne Peters is back with the ISL Team after being away on maternity leave.

PEIANC Volunteer Workshop

Thanks to everyone who came out to our Volunteer Workshop on February 24th! There were a lot of great stories shared and lessons learned. Stay tuned for information about upcoming events for PEIANC Volunteers.

I have been working with the PEIANC ISL team since January. I've felt very welcomed here and I love the fact that I get to work with students both in school and outside of school on a regular basis. We have so many great kids here from all over the world. I am learning many new things from our students and their families.

I am very happy to have joined the wonderful team at PEIANC. I work in the Multicultural Education Program and enjoy giving presentations about diversity and multiculturalism to schools and cultural sensitivity workshops to organizations and businesses. I look forward to working with the great staff here and meeting more of our Newcomer clients.

I am really happy to be a new member of the PEIANC team, working mainly with the schools and client placement into EAS classes. PEIANC is such a great organization that offers so many aspects of support to Newcomers and I'm pleased that I can be part of that. I'm really looking forward to seeing the clients develop as they establish their new lives here in PEI.

I am proud to be a new member of the PEIANC staff. Since December I have met many wonderful people and have already formed great friendships. I look forward to working closely with my talented teammates and keeping you informed about the many programs and events we have to offer Newcomers.

Island to Island: Hope for Haiti

Vishtèn
Brooke Miller
Don Ross
Ifo Ikede
Si Yun Wang
& others

Saturday,
March 20

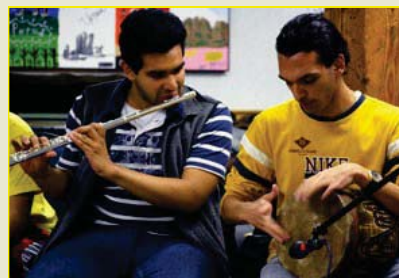


7:30pm

Carrefour de l'Isle-Saint-Jean Theatre

Tickets (\$15 adult/\$10 child) at:

- Back Alley Music (69 University Ave.)
 - Carrefour de L'Isle-Saint-Jean
 - PEI Assoc. for Newcomers to Canada
- All proceeds go to 'Doctors Without Borders'



Global Jam and PEI Drum Circle

Date: March 24th, 2010
Time: 8-10pm
Place: Health Within Holistic Centre, 500B Queen Street

Join us for a FREE night of music, dance, and song! Just bring your instrument and your voice to participate in this event that brings together music lovers from PEI and around the world.

For more information about Global Jam, please contact Nancy Clement at nancy@peianc.com.

Business Mentorship

Want to help an immigrant entrepreneur start or expand a business in PEI?

PEIANC is recruiting volunteer Business Mentors to provide information to immigrant entrepreneurs about starting and managing a business.

For more information, please contact Naomi Arron at naomi@peianc.com.



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Newcomers to Canada

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