



PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada



Bringing People and Communities Together

2003 - 2004 Annual Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRESIDENT’S REPORT.....	1
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.....	2
PROGRAM REPORTS.....	4
Office Administration.....	4
Settlement Program.....	5
Employment Assistance Service.....	5
Immigrant Student Liaison Program.....	6
Language Assessments.....	7
Host Program.....	7
PROJECT REPORTS.....	8
The World Among Us.....	8
Intercultural Support for Women: Phase II.....	8
Building Strategic Partnerships: Phase II.....	9
FINANCIAL AUDIT.....	9



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Erick Silva

The 2003-2004 year has been another exciting and rewarding year for the Prince Edward Island Association for Newcomers. The Association continues its valuable work guided by our Executive Director, Kevin Arsenault and staff, Aghdas Missaghian, Michelle Jay, Lorraine Beck, Beti Andric, Erica Stanley, Barb Gray and Margaret Younker. On behalf of the Board I extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the staff of the Association for their dedication, commitment and hard work. Several highlights of this past year come to mind and they include:

Intercultural Support for Woman Project:

Funded by the Canadian Women's Foundation and carried out by Betty Andric and Michelle Jay of the Association, together with the assistance of UPEI Nursing Preceptorship Tracy Murphy, this project developed modules and trained a group of immigrant women interpreters on family violence issues so that they will be able to work with organizations and victims of domestic violence, particularly those whose mother tongue is not English.

Presentation to Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration:

Many thanks are owed to Board members, Zeke Eaton and Joe Byrne, together with Executive Director, Kevin Arsenault, who made presentations to the committee in February of 2003 in relation to such issues as identity cards, legislative changes to the *Citizenship Act* and settlement services.

Qualification Study:

Thanks to the receipt of funding from Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), the Association was able to contract Jasmina Garic to carry out a Recognition of Foreign Credentials Project. A valuable report has been produced as a result of this project which should assist professional associations, employers and newcomers to Canada in employment issues.

The Prince Edward Island Association for Newcomers to Canada Christmas Open House:

An overwhelming number of newcomers to Canada, volunteers with the Association, funding partners and interested parties gathered at the Association in December of 2002 to celebrate the goodwill of the

holiday season. Given the success of the event it is hoped that the open house will continue in years to come.

World Among Us:

Funded by Canadian Heritage, the World Among Us project reached out into the community this year and many of our newcomers visited school classrooms, youth groups, and other community organizations to speak on their culture and native country. The new method of delivery of this project was very well received and reached a number of individuals who otherwise would not have participated.

Strategic Planning Session:

Guided by facilitator, Paula Gallant, the Board and staff held an annual strategic planning session in February 2003. These annual strategic planning sessions provide an opportunity for staff and Board members to socialize and collaborate. They also provide an excellent means for reviewing the accomplishments of the Association and establishing new goals for the future. We are grateful for receiving a grant again this year from the Community Foundation of Prince Edward Island which covered a portion of the costs of the strategic planning session.

This year we say goodbye to Betty Andric, our former Admin Assistant, Project Co-ordinator, Host Program Co-ordinator and jack of all trades. Betty's commitment and service to the Association over the last several years is very much appreciated and we wish Betty all the best. Hand and hand with Betty's departure, we welcome Erica Stanley to the Association as our new Host Program Co-ordinator.

In closing, I wish to extend thanks to our principal funding partners, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), Human Resources and Development Canada (HRDC) and Canadian Heritage. We look forward to continuing our working relationship in welcoming and assisting newcomers to Canada.

This year completes my second term as President of the Association and also brings to an end my membership on the Board of Directors. As I retire from the Board, I wish to give my heartfelt thanks to my wonderful volunteer Board members, Joe Byrne, Eric Silva, Zlatibor Momcilovic, Graham Pike, Zeke Eaton and Jane Ledwell. Their support and commitment is appreciated. I have found my time as a Board member enriching and rewarding and I wish the Association continued success in the future.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin J. Arsenaault

It has been another very productive year for the PEI ANC, with new programs, new projects and some changes in staffing. Core programs continue to be our Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Human Resource Development Canada (HRDC) service contracts. These agreements enable us to provide a range of services to immigrants and refugees coming to PEI. Details of these different service programs can be found in the separate staff reports contained in this annual report.

In addition to our core programs, during the past year we also received project funding from Canadian Heritage, the Canadian Women's Foundation, the Community Foundation of PEI, and the PEI government. Information on these projects is given later in the report.

In my report, I want to touch on several areas of work which do not fall directly under the scope of particular grants, agreements or contracts. As well, I want to give some sense of the direction that the PEI ANC will be taking in the coming year.

Metropolis Atlantic Centre of Excellence:

During the past several years, I represented PEI on a regional sub-committee, along with PEI ANC Board Member Graham Pike, which has been working to establish an Atlantic Metropolis Centre. This initiative sought to establish a unique research collaboration between federal and provincial government, Atlantic Canadian Universities, and not-for-profit organizations working with issues of immigration, settlement, or some aspect of population dynamics and demographics.

The Atlantic Metropolis Centre will facilitate important research in the area of immigrant, refugee and diversity population issues. My involvement, along with that of other NGO representatives from Atlantic Canada, has ensured that members of Settlement Agencies such as the ANC will play a key role in the governance structures of the Metropolis Centre, as well as in actual research. The key focus for research expressed by all participants on PEI is how to increase population diversity, appreciation of diversity, and retention of immigrants and refugees of diverse cultural backgrounds on PEI.

A formal proposal for funding was submitted to government, and a number of funding partners have indicated support.

Atlantic Regional Association of Immigrant

Serving Agencies (ARAISA):

The ANC is a member of ARAISA, which, as the name suggests, is a regional Association of thirteen Immigrant Serving Agencies in Atlantic Canada. Each year ARAISA hosts a Settlement Conference which affords an opportunity to the management and staff of Service Provider Organizations (SPO's) to share information and network on matters relating to the work of immigrant and refugee settlement in Atlantic Canada. The Atlantic settlement conference for 2003-04 was held last March in Fredericton, N.B. Three ANC staff attended: Kevin Arsenaault; Aggie Missaghian; and Erica Carragher. The Conference was an excellent chance to network, share best practices and develop strategies to improve settlement services to immigrants.

Since last Fall, I have also participated in several Conference call meetings of the Board of ARAISA, and attended a day-long ARAISA meeting in Halifax to develop a protocol to govern the Settlement Sector's involvement and relationship, March 5 & 6, 2003.

Initial plans for the Atlantic Settlement Conference to have the conference hosted in Fredericton by the Multicultural Association of Fredericton (MCAF) for this year are in limbo, due to problems in acquiring funding for the conference. It would be a great loss if we are unable to have an Atlantic Settlement Conference this year.

Annual Strategic Planning Weekend:

The PEI ANC has been engaging in strategic planning weekends for the past few years. These weekend sessions are designed to chart a clearer course for the future direction and work of the ANC. During the past year, board and staff came together on the weekend of March 7-8, 2003 at UPEI. With the help of a \$500.00 community organization capacity building grant from the Community Foundation of PEI, the ANC was able to contract Paula Gallant to facilitate our planning weekend.

A couple of key outcomes emerged from this year's weekend: PEI must do a better job of attracting and keeping immigrant families to PEI; and more provincial government resources are needed for settlement services if this is to happen. Of course there was much discussion on particular needs, service gaps and required programs. Seeking support from the provincial government was identified as the primary objective for the year.

The provincial government has become involved in



attracting immigrants through a new federal-provincial agreement on immigration signed with in the Spring of 2001. The Provincial Nominee Program allows the province to sponsor up to 200 immigrants per year. With family members, this represents hundreds of additional immigrants to PEI per year. To date, additional resources to facilitate and improve settlement and integration services for these highly skilled immigrants has not been forthcoming. With this in mind, considerable work has been done during the past year to establish a good rapport and working relationship with staff within various departments of the provincial government. More recently, the PEI ANC has written to Premier Binns requesting that his government negotiate a settlement service contract with the PEI ANC.

Community Outreach, Research and Networking:

The PEI ANC also engages in community outreach and networking. Board members and staff have found many opportunities to participate and collaborate in community processes and events during the past year, some of which are mentioned by other staff members in their reports. As Executive Director, I have attended a range of meetings, events, and planning sessions during the past year, including:

- Participation in an Atlantic Region Multicultural Conference in Halifax;
- PEI Multicultural Organizing Meeting;
- Community Foundation of PEI Open House;
- Atlantic Settlement Conference;
- PEI Metropolis Committee meetings;
- Attendance at February 28 Citizenship Ceremony;
- Community CBC luncheon and consultation ;
- A UPEI fund-raising dinner during International Development week;
- April 23-24 *Positive Parenting* workshop at the Dutch Inn;
-
- Attended graduation ceremony for Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) students at Holland College;
- Attended Citizenship ceremonies;

Christmas Open House:

On December 17, 2003, we held another very successful Open House event at the ANC office. Roughly 100 people turned out for food and socializing. Premier Binns and Hon. Shawn Murphy were among those who attended. We look forward to similarly successful gathering this year.

What's Ahead for the PEI ANC?

The coming year will be an exciting one for the Association for Newcomers. It is our intention to once again submit an application to Canadian Heritage to repeat the successful project, *The World Among Us*. We are especially looking forward to establishing a new working collaboration between federal, provincial and community organizations through the *Building Strategic Partnerships Phase II* project.

Each year the Settlement Agencies in Atlantic Canada come together for an Atlantic Region Settlement Conference, . Next year (2005) it is PEI's turn to host this event.

My gratitude to all ANC volunteers, including those involved in the Host Program, those who provided newcomers with computer training or language tutoring, those who assisted with the ISL summer program, as well as members of our Board of Directors.

I would like to express a special note of appreciation to Susan Carruthers, who has served as the President of the PEI ANC for the past two years. Susan is giving up a position on the Board as she pursues new challenges. Susan has done an excellent job guiding the PEI ANC through a difficult period of transition and growth. All the best!

As well, during the past year Beti Andric left the PEI ANC to work on a home-based computer business. Beti's contribution to the ANC and her many talents can not be overstated. Beti has graciously agreed to volunteer her time to maintain our web site and is doing a spectacular job.

The PEI ANC has once again accepted two Canada World Youth (CWY) participants under the terms of the Charlottetown/Russia Netcorps Program 2004/05. CWY placements will begin at the PEI ANC in January, 2005.

I must say that I am very fortunate to work with such a talented staff., ANC staff are the only trained and experienced settlement workers on the Island. A heartfelt thank you to Michelle, Erica, Aggie, Barb and Lorraine for your hard work, good cheer and dedication to immigrants and refugees coming to PEI. Thanks also to Marg Younker, our part-time bookkeeper who works each Tuesday in the office. Finally, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our funders, especially the local management and staff with whom we work: Asifa Rahman and Dan



Doran at CIC; Debbie MacMurdo and Jodi LeBlanc at HRDC; Claire Arsenault and Donald Arsenault at Canadian Heritage; and Donna White with the Community Mobilization Program. I also want to express appreciation to the PEI government for approving Employment Development Agency grant applications for two twelve week work placements during the past year.

PROGRAM REPORTS

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Kevin J. Arsenault

Over the past couple of years, the PEI ANC has had a position titled "Program Support/Office Administration" which was held by Beti Andric. Due to a lack of core administrative funding, the position had changed quite a bit from 2001 to 2002, with Beti having to do much more program and project work, and less administrative assistance and reception work. When Beti left the ANC earlier this year, we were left with no administrative support.

As an interim measure, the PEI ANC was able to secure Employment Development Grants from the PEI Government to hire Barb Gray as a full-time office administrator for two twelve (12) week periods. We have received a commitment from the PEI government for limited funds which allows Barb to continue working at the ANC until Christmas of this year. It is our sincere hope that we will secure funding to make Barb's position full-time. As more immigrants come to PEI, we are facing increasing demands on our work, which makes the need for a full-time office administrator/receptionist essential.

iCAMS: The iCAMS (Immigration - Contribution Accountability Measurement System) system was introduced for our RAP program last year. This year CIC introduced their new data collection system for the LINC/CLBA, ISAP & Host programs. Lorraine Beck and I received training on December 11, 2002 for language assessment data recording on iCAMS; and Aggie, Beti and I received training in Moncton for Host and ISAP data recording on iCAMS in Moncton, March 25th.

SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Aghdas Missaghian

We received fifty two (52) government assisted refugees since last Fall, from a variety of countries including; Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Bosnia, Iraq, Sudan, Sierra Leone, China, and Colombia. Nine (9) of the 52 newcomers have since left the province.

When we look at the number of arrivals based on the calendar year (January 1, 2002 - December 31, 2002) we see that we received 67 Government Sponsored Refugees.

The settlement program comprises two separate programs funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC): the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) and the Immigrant Settlement Adaptation Program (ISAP). Each program has separate but similar objectives, i.e., addressing the needs of newcomers settling in Canada, with the RAP program focusing on initial settlement needs and basic orientation. I am responsible for both the RAP and ISAP programs at the PEI ANC.

Some responsibilities undertaken on behalf of newcomers included :

- Booking rooms in the hotel and making cheques ready for food during their time in temporary accommodation;
- Receiving newcomers at the airport;
- Doing paper work for SIN numbers, Child Tax Credits, Private Identity Cards and Health Cards;
- Meeting with immigration officials;
- Finding accommodations, helping with purchasing house hold items;
- Making appointments and referrals to service providers;
- Finding childcare providers;
- Doing RAP orientations;
- Registering newcomers children in schools;
- Arranging for language assessments;
- Introducing newcomers to English class;
- Training interpreters;
- Arranging for Interpreters as required.

Most of our clients still do not have family doctors. All I can do is to send their names to Health and Social Services to be placed on a waiting list, although some of them have real health problems.

This past year I participated in a number of workshops in PEI, including training in Moncton for CIC's on-line database reporting system (iCAMS). As well, this was my 4th year representing the PEI ANC on the victim Services Advisory Committee.

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE SERVICE



Michelle Jay and Catherine Ronahan

The past year has been challenging and rewarding, for the ANC and the Employment Service in particular. New challenges involve an increased demand from Provincial Nominee clients, who experience different realities than our mostly-refugee newcomers. As well, these new immigrants have necessitated an ongoing negotiation with the province as to services that we can and will provide, with financial support. For all of the individual programs of the Association, new types of clients needs mean an adjustment in service delivery.

The EAS service has been very fortunate to be able to provide increased assistance, with the addition of *Catherine Ronahan* for 3.5 days/ week. She has been a marked asset, bringing previous experience, professional work ethic, and real commitment to helping newcomers with employment needs. As the sole employment counsellor previously, I am especially appreciative of the additional assistance.

We are pleased to be working on a *new employment resource*, with *Beti Andric*. Similar to the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) orientation tool, we are creating employment-specific information. It will be available to newcomers as a slideshow using the data projector, in hard copy, and on-line via the ANC website. To date, the work that *Beti* has completed is outstanding, and we anticipate this being a very useful EAS tool.

The difficulties associated with *recognition of foreign credentials and prior learning* continue to be a major issue for new immigrants. There is some movement to address related concerns, and we have been meeting monthly as a provincial committee since June. Progress has been made, but our interests are divergent. We are able to provide some assistance in paying for translation of documents and having diplomas assessed, which is essential for newcomers in the process of credential recognition. I am hopeful that attending the Canadian Association for Prior Learning (CAPLA) conference in November, in Toronto, will provide increased options for a small organization such as ours.

As well, *Catherine* and myself are both doing some work on the *Atlantic Security and Immigration* project. Together with a top-notch Local Reference Group, we organized a Town Hall in 2003, conducted a Focus Group, and are preparing for surveys and personal interviews this autumn.

The EAS service has maintained an active caseload of more than 30 clients for the past year, and has been able to meet the employment targets

established by the HRDC contract without much difficulty - the real challenge, as always, lies in securing meaningful work with livable wages. Below are statistics representing the number of employment and schooling positions initiated by newcomer clients from **September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004:**

Full-Time Positions	22
Permanent	10
Seasonal/Contract	12
Part-Time Positions	52
Permanent	22
Seasonal/Contract	30
School / Training Programs	27

A note about the unusually high number of part-time positions: nearly 20 of those were picking strawberries, for 4 - 7 weeks. There were many newcomers who were able to communicate only very basically, and were willing to labour during the summer months, while the LINC program was closed, before returning in the Fall to improve their language skills. *Catherine* made contact with the strawberry growers, negotiated between them and the clients, oriented the workers, arranged transportation and provided on-going liaison for the harvest season.

Some features of the Employment Service throughout the year include:

- attending *Recognizing Learning in a Knowledge Economy* - National CAPLA Conference;
- establishing *ACSW Inge Blackett Bursary for Refugee Women*;
- contributing interviews to the publication *Employment Journey*;
- participating in *MISA Qualification Recognition Study*;
- acting as Facilitator, *Atlantic Security and Immigration Project*;
- conducting *Group Job Search Session*, Pre-Literate Summer Employment;
- attending *PEI Career Development Association* employment conference;
- participating in *Effective Career Counselling* workshop with Norm Amundson;
- HRSDC Consultation, Revised *Skills Development Applications and Process*;
- Catherine* attending *Contact 4* client-tracking software training.

IMMIGRANT STUDENT LIAISON PROGRAM

Lorraine Beck



The Immigrant Student Liaison Program has now successfully completed another full school year. The approval of the application for funding to the Province of PEI has made it possible for the program to continue for the school year 2004-2005. ISL is, for the first time, a program of the PEIANC with funding from the Province as opposed to the Federal Department of Citizenship and Immigration. We are very happy to have the 4 designated schools of Prince Street Elementary, St. Jean's Elementary, Birchwood Intermediate, and Colonel Gray Senior High School seek to continue in this partnership of providing additional support to Immigrant Students in the public school system.

The four main objectives of the program continue to be:

1. To assist immigrant and refugee students in adapting to their new school environment;
2. To facilitate and encourage greater involvement of newcomer families in their children's education;
3. To assist school staff in meeting the special needs of immigrant 1 students within the school system;
4. To refer immigrant students and their families to appropriate community services.

As of June 25, 2004, the **ISL program was serving 46 newcomer students**; 13 Elementary School students, 12 Intermediate School students, and 21 Senior High School students. This number grows considerably when the total number of high school students participating in the International Friendship Group at Colonel Gray is counted. Also with the continued growth of the Provincial Nominee program, the numbers are considerably higher from last year and are predicted to continue growing. Additional support has and will also be given to newcomer students in other schools based on individual requests for service. Queen Charlotte Intermediate and Spring Park Elementary have both accessed the services of the ISL program in facilitating the integration of newcomer students from Africa and Iraq.

The ISL program was asked to take over the coordination and facilitation of the **International Friendship Group** at Colonel Gray High School for the 2003-04 school year. The International Friendship Group involved approximately 25-30 students from a great diversity of countries all over the world, some of whom are landed immigrants and

some of whom are exchange students. There was regular attendance throughout the school year at the monthly meetings which included refreshments, icebreaker activities, and topics of interest to students.

This year the ISL program was invited into **2 classrooms at Colonel Gray to do presentations** regarding the services of the PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada. The topic of Immigration as it is relevant to PEI was covered as well as the ISL program and what it offers to newcomer students in this school and others. I was also able to suggest possibilities for how Canadian students can be involved in volunteer tutoring with newcomer students.

I met regularly throughout the school year with guidance counsellors, principals, and vice principals, to address individual needs of newcomer students. I gave recommendations regarding school and academic placements at the request of administration. I provided support to teachers requiring intervention for students on cultural and academic issues. This often involved visiting families of newcomer students to explain particular challenges their children are having and to encourage parents to become more involved through attendance at parent-teacher interviews, etc.

This school year, the ISL program was able to start a **Homework Club** at Prince Street School for 2 afternoons a week, through the help of a dedicated volunteer tutor. 5 newcomer students participated and it was a great success in helping the students complete homework and develop better study habits.

Other services provided by the ISL program included regular **cross-cultural support counselling** to individuals particularly at the junior and senior high level. This was done mostly through consultation and referrals by guidance counsellors. Many students struggled with feelings of isolation and the challenges of fitting in and forming new friendships. There were also incidents of racism and bullying which were handled with the support of the administration.

The greatest challenge which continues to present itself to newcomer students in the 4 designated schools of the ISL program is the lack of adequate **ESL instruction**. The 60 hours provided through the Dept. of Education continues to be grossly inadequate and the PEIANC continues to lobby for an increase. The PEIANC has offered support to a proposal put forward by Evelyn MacLeod to the Staffing and Funding Program Review published in



2003 by the Dept. of Education. This proposal calls for a full time Itinerant ESL instructor within designated schools where the newcomer student population is the highest.

For the first time Colonel Gray will be offering an **ESL credit** at Colonel Gray starting September 2004. This is a major breakthrough in servicing newcomer students. Daphne Campbell, the Guidance Counsellor, Jim Killorn, the Principal, and Myra Thorkelson, Diversity Consultant, are to be highly commended for taking this initiative. Myra Thorkelson is the instructor.

ISL Summer Program for Newcomer Students

Again this summer the ISL program was able to provide an avenue for continued learning and increased socialization within the summer months. Most importantly for practicing English, and providing opportunities for children to get together as a social and personal support to each other. Also to increase familiarity with Charlottetown and the services and attractions offered in the summer. The program was a great success with a total of 26 students participating in the program and many new friendships formed.

I look forward to another year of serving newcomer students and families through this very fulfilling and rewarding program.

LANGUAGE ASSESSMENTS

Lorraine Beck

The PEI ANC continues as the only service provider of Canadian Language Benchmarks Assessments for new immigrants to PEI. This contract is funded through Citizenship and Immigration Canada. For the time period from September '02 - September '03, the number of CLBA's administered through PEI ANC was 31. Of this number, 27 were Government Sponsored, 3 were Family Sponsored, and 1 Independent.

HOST PROGRAM

Rocío McCallum

This year the Host Program has had a major change in relation to the position of Host Coordinator. As of June 21st the position is being carried out by myself, Rocío McCallum, while Erica Carragher is on maternity leave.

The Host Program provides an opportunity for new immigrants to meet Canadian families in PEI. It helps

newcomers become acquainted with Canadian life and provides assistance to them when needed. The program continues to encourage community involvement and the development of friendship bonds for newcomers promoting cultural exchange among matches and acquaint international newcomers with the local community and its members.

Over this past year new friendships have developed with the help of volunteers, they are the key for the success of the program in its mission to provide settlement and long term integration of new immigrants to PEI.

Host Matches: This year the number of matches maintains the fluctuation of previous years, showed by the ups and downs of interviews, orientations, new matches and termination of old matches. This unsteadiness in numbers is mainly due to the large amount of arrivals at times, the lack of new arrivals at others and the high out-migration rate especially for people from African countries. During July and August we haven't had any arrivals, although new matches have been realized for people who had been on a waitlist, for newcomers from the family class status, and for newcomers previously matched whose friendships did not work out. Currently, the recent out-migration has left us with 13 active matches that continue to be monitored. As of today, 32 matches have been realized this past year, this number does not include the seven holiday matches.

Volunteers: Our volunteer pool continues to present the same patterns seen previous years, about 70% of them are women, leaving the other 30% for men and families. This year there was a holiday matching program with 7 new families who came forward to volunteer for a short-term over the holiday season. Thirty four (34) volunteers were recruited including former volunteers who have decided to become involved again.

The program has been promoted through different means: radio interview on CBC Island Morning for the holiday matching, a multicultural event, a display set up at the CUSO National AGM, the web site and the Host Post. Still a lot of our volunteers learned about the program through word of mouth or through contact with organizations or individuals who are related to the ANC in some way.

Two volunteer participants from Canada World Youth will be working with us starting September the, they will mainly interact with the family's housekeeping chores. Their contribution to the Host Program is greatly anticipated.

Social Events: Culturama 2003 was carried out by Canada World Youth (CWY) and several other



organizations including the Host Program, approximately 400 people attended the event which included a variety show of international musical and dance performances, international cuisine and a dance.

In January another social event was held, which brought in about 70 newcomers and volunteers for bowling, pool and pizza at Dooly's. Everyone mixed well and organized their own teams. Feedback was very good and the event cheered every one up, something much needed in the winter months.

The spring host social event was a guided tour of Green Gables and an outing to Cavendish beach. Over 50 people attended this event. Everyone enjoyed the warm sunny day and the tour of the Green Gables House.

The last social event we had was the Summer Beach Party held in July. Over 30 people came together to enjoy a sunny day at Stanhope beach. It was a great opportunity for newcomers, volunteers and staff to learn more about each other.

The next social event is scheduled for the first week of October.

Host Post: Quarterly publication of the Host Post newsletter have been printed and distributed for each season. Approximately 100 copies of the Host Post are being mailed to volunteers, newcomers, other NGOs, and board members to keep them informed on our activities and their outcome as well as a means for publicity for upcoming events, volunteer recruiting and NCA needs. The Host Post can be also found on the PEI ANC website in an electronic format.

I am currently working on the edition of the Fall issue.

PROJECT REPORTS

The World Among Us (WAU): Twelve presentations were delivered under the Canadian Heritage funded *World Among Us* project during the past year. Some presentations were given to particular groups in response to invitations the PEI ANC received from these groups, ranging from a kindergarten class to a University audience; others were open to the general public:

- History and Culture of Croatia - ATHI Languages and Cultures Class
- History and Culture of Iraq - UPEI - presentation open to general public
- History and Culture of Kenya - Glen Stewart Elementary School
- History and Culture of Kenya - Colonel Gray Highschool

- Life of Children and Youth in Kenya - Girl Guides Cornwall
- Origami Class (Japanese art of folding paper) - Vernon River School
- Impact of AIDS on the Lives of African Children - UPEI
- Life in Nigeria - kindergarten class, Basilica Recreation Center
- Immigrant Issues - Social Studies Classes - Colonel Gray Highschool (3 presentations)
- Conversation Circle - Immigrant Issues - Lacey House

Most presenters were recent immigrants to PEI.

Inter-Cultural Support for Women, Phase II:

The Inter-Cultural Support for Women project was a great success, which led to ICSW Phase II. Objectives of Phase I of this project were:

- To train eight (8) women on the issues of violence against women
- To engage a committee of 6-7 women to develop training resources
- To inform 50-60 attendees about project at Community Workshop
- To increase knowledge of, and communication between, the PEI ANC and women's equality-seeking organizations on PEI
- To have eight trained inter-cultural support workers available in the community to assist women with violence issues

An application was submitted to the Canadian Women's Foundation, and the ANC received some additional funding to develop further the training modules and have them reproduced and distributed to organizations working in support of women who are victims of violence. This resource will be posted on our website in coming weeks.



Building Strategic Partnerships Phase II:

The BSP Phase I project which the PEI ANC undertook back in 2001 culminated in a very successful conference at the Delta Hotel, with a post-conference challenge for the PEI ANC to find concrete ways to implement new structures, programs, and policies to address the identified problems and gaps in immigrant service. During the past year, a BSP Phase II project funded by Canadian Heritage built on the work of the phase I project, with great success.

An excellent steering committee of federal and provincial government representatives met to , non-profit organizations and third sector stakeholders, health care and education providers, policing agencies, and the business community. We also hope to negotiate a new service contract with the PEI government.

FINANCIAL AUDIT

Our financial audit was completed by Wendy Ripley, chartered accountant, Charlottetown. Copies are available at our office, 179 Queen Street, or by calling 628-6009.



P.O. Box 2846
179 Queen Street
Charlottetown, PE C1A 8C4

Office Reception/Settlement/Host

Telephone: (902) 628-6009

Fax: (902) 894-4928

Email: newcomers@isn.net

Website: www.isn.net/newcomers

Employment Assistance Service:

Telephone: (902) 368-3070

Fax: (902) 894-4928

email: newcomers.employ@isn.net

Executive Director:

Telephone: (902) 626-7254

Fax: (902) 894-4928

Email: exdir@isn.net

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency

Charitable Taxation Number:

098611125-09