

South Central Immigrant Services

August 2011 Newsletter

Winkler

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Morden

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Altona

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Flag Display at the Altona Sunflower Festival

This year for the Sunflower Festival we invited clients to watch the parade with us in front of our office. We had some flags on display to help raise awareness of our location. For families who have not watched the parade before it was a new experience.

Also, we had a display of flags at the Pioneer Center highlighting all of the cultures represented in and around Altona. Approximately 1600 visitors attended the Mennonite Foods Buffet and while they were there they could read trivia about each country, visit our display board, and children could make paper dolls representing a variety of ethnic backgrounds.

There were a number of positive comments appreciating the trivia and how the community has grown to reflect a multicultural mosaic.



Upcoming Events this Summer

Winkler

August 12 - 14

International Walk of Flags
at the Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival Parade

Morden

August 27

Morden Corn & Apple Parade



Pembina Valley English at Work and Skills Program Update

The English at Work and Skills Project has two distinct service delivery models;

1. On-site workplace specific classes
2. Community based Skills classes



On-site Workplace Specific Classes:

The primary focus of the Pembina Valley English at Work and Skills Project is on-site, workplace specific classes. There are currently 7 workplaces that partner with the program to provide English language training for their immigrant employees. Instructor costs are shared between the program and the employer. Currently an incentive plan is in place that allows for 100% funding of instructor costs by Pembina Valley English at Work and Skills for the first year of participation. Employees are expected to contribute half of their instructional time, with the employer paying them for half.

In an effort to reach businesses that do not have enough immigrant employees for a class, Pembina Valley English at Work and Skills is prepared to offer a class combining learners from different businesses. Alternatively, funds are available to offer on-site, workplace specific tutorials.

Contact the EAW Coordinator to find out how this could assist your business.

Community Based Skills Classes:

Skills classes are higher-level (Canadian Language Benchmark level 5+) skill-specific classes which provide English training for immigrants who wish to obtain gainful employment, or to work towards receiving accreditation for their professional certification.

Skills classes take place outside of the workplace, and are at no cost to the employer or to the learner.

Learners in these classes focus on specific skills. The overall goal of these classes is to provide learners with the English skills needed to:

- Obtain gainful employment in Manitoba or
- Increase their opportunity for success in the Manitoba labour market or
- Aid them in the process of receiving Canadian recognition for their international profession

*Classes/workshops are offered on the basis of ongoing needs assessments in the Pembina Valley Region, and are dependent on sufficient enrolment and regular attendance.





Fall 2011 Courses:

English in the Workplace (Winkler)
English in the Workplace (Altona)

English in the Workplace – Course Description

- Have you ever been confused by the way a Canadian responds to you?
- Have you ever wondered how your cultural background is influencing your communication in English, and how you can improve it?
- Have you ever wished you knew more about Canadian workplace culture, policies, and procedures?

In this course, you will:

- Understand Canadian workplace rules and safety procedures
- Learn about working in a multi-cultural workplace
- Practise pronunciation clarity for the workplace
- Expand workplace-specific vocabulary and idioms

These courses will consist of two classes a week (2 hours each) and run for 12 weeks.
(Start date: Sept. 19, 2011 - dependent on sufficient enrolment)

Winter 2012:

English for the Potential Health Care Aide

This class focuses on the English language and cultural skills required to attend further training as a Health Care Aide. This is a 12 week, 12 hr/week class designed for learners who are at a minimum CLB level 5.

*This class has been offered in the past, and future offering is dependent on expressed need. Contact the English at Work and Skills office to put your name on a list if you are interested in taking this course beginning in January.

English at Work and Skills
Contact Information:

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Thursday: 8:30-5:00**

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