

**NEWCOMERS:** Four more Welcome Centres open

# One-stop service shopping for York Region immigrants

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New resources are available in York Region to help newcomers succeed.

Four new Welcome Centres opened across the region Friday.

They offer a one-stop shop approach to services by pooling the resources of community-based agencies under one roof to help newcomers and their families get the services they need to build a better life in their new communities.

*'It was born of blood, sweat and tears over the last five years.'*

"Five agencies worked together to make this concept a reality. It was born of blood, sweat and tears over the last five years," Social Enterprise for Canada chairperson Michael Raffa said at the centre's grand opening this week. "The centre is unique in that clients will deal with one person, there will be no hand-offs, which makes integration easier on newcomers and their families."

Funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and managed by community organizations, the centre will provide settlement services, such as interpretation and referral services, language

► For more information, visit [welcomecentre.ca](http://welcomecentre.ca) or call 1-877-761-1155.

assessment and classes, job search workshops, occasional child-minding, family counselling, public health services and legal services.

A mobile unit is also being funded to provide settlement services in smaller communities throughout the region.

"I'm struck by a community that wanted to help new immigrants settle," Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown said, explaining she has experienced the difficulty of integrating into a new language and culture as she and her family have participated in many student exchange programs. "Those first couple of months are so tough for those learning a new language in a new community."

It is a service the region needs as it saw 46,000 immigrants arrive between 2001 and 2006, she added.

The first Welcome Centre in York Region, which opened in Vaughan in 2007, has helped more than 6,000 immigrants.

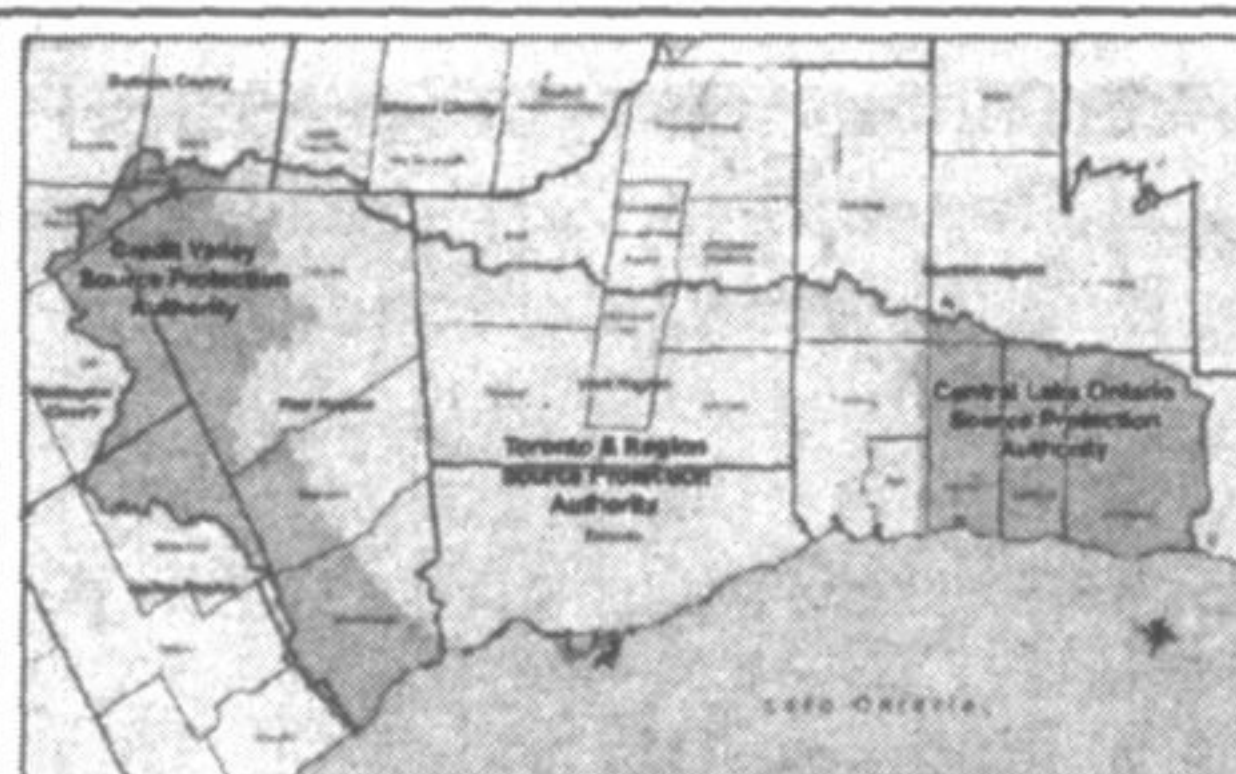
Two new centres in Markham and one each in Newmarket and Richmond Hill opened Friday.

The idea to expand and open more centres sprang from the creation of the York Region inclusivity plan, a study that found there were very few services in the area.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Daniel Gu locates Shanghai, China, with help from Markham South Welcome Centre settlement worker Tina Wong before Friday's opening ceremonies. Centres also opened in northern Markham, Newmarket and Richmond Hill last week.



## DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

### CTC Source Protection Region

Have a Voice and Help Protect Drinking Water in Your Community

The CTC Source Protection Committee is a group of citizens, appointed under the Clean Water Act, representing general public, municipal, business and interest group sectors from across the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Areas. The Committee is charged with creating Assessment Reports which identify the location and nature of potential risks to sources of municipal drinking water. Visit [www.ctcswp.ca](http://www.ctcswp.ca) for more information.

The CTC Source Protection Committee (SPC) has completed the *Draft Proposed Assessment Report: Toronto and Region Source Protection Area*. The draft report is available for public review and comment from September 16, 2010 to October 20, 2010 and provides information on the quality and quantity of drinking water sources for parts of the Regions of Durham, York, Peel and the City of Toronto. Members of the public are invited to review and provide comments on this report until 4:30pm on October 20, 2010.

Copies of the report are available at:

- Online at [www.ctcswp.ca](http://www.ctcswp.ca)
- Electronically by request to [sourcewater@trca.on.ca](mailto:sourcewater@trca.on.ca)
- Toronto Region Conservation offices: see location online or call 416 661 6600 ext. 5752

Five free public meetings have been scheduled to give residents an opportunity to inspect the *Draft Proposed Assessment Report: Toronto and Region Source Protection Area* and get more information:

<p><b>Thurs. September 30, 2010</b> 6:30pm – 9:00pm Ajax Community Centre 75 Centennial Road Ajax, ON Lake Ontario Focus</p>	<p><b>Wed. October 6, 2010</b> 6:30pm – 9:00pm Latham Hall 8 Park Drive Stouffville, ON Whitchurch-Stouffville/Uxville</p>	<p><b>Thurs. October 7, 2010</b> 6:30pm – 9:00pm Nobleton Community Centre 15 Old King Road Nobleton, ON Kleinburg/Nobleton/King City</p>
<p><b>Wed. October 13, 2010</b> 6:30pm – 9:00pm Caledon Community Complex 6215 Old Church Road Caledon, East, ON Caledon East/Palgrave/Caledon Village</p>	<p><b>Thurs. October 14, 2010</b> 6:30pm – 9:00pm Clarke Memorial Hall 161 Lakeshore West Port Credit, ON Lake Ontario Focus</p>	

(Details, including directions to the meetings, will be available at [www.ctcswp.ca](http://www.ctcswp.ca) closer to the meeting dates.)

Please direct inquiries to 416.661.6600 Ext. 5752

Comments made before 4:30 p.m. October 20, 2010 will be considered by the committee in revising the Toronto and Region Assessment Report

Comments can be submitted by fax, mail or email to Chair, CTC Source Protection Committee, 5 Shoreham Drive, Downsview ON M3N 1S4 Fax 416.667.6270 Email:

[sourcewater@trca.on.ca](mailto:sourcewater@trca.on.ca)

## Are you a NEW community agency serving the residents of York Region?

Do you need funding to help you with organizational development to provide a community service project for 2011?

Through the **New Agency Development Fund (NADF)**, York Region is assisting in the development of new and emerging community agencies to provide services to York Region residents.

The Regional Municipality of York invites new community service agencies (those that have been in existence for five years or less at the time of application) to submit funding proposals for 2011 projects that address one or more of the following priority areas:

- Homelessness programs and services
- Family and Children Strengthening programs and services
- Employment Supports
- Public health programs that complement Regional public health initiatives such as sexual health, healthy lifestyles and health protection

Interested agencies can obtain a **Call for Proposals package (P-10-130)**:

- By using the downloading option from the Region's website ([www.york.ca/NADF](http://www.york.ca/NADF)) or;
- By visiting the York Region Administrative Centre, Supplies and Services Branch, First Floor, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket

**The deadline for proposals is:  
Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 1 p.m. prompt.  
Late submissions will not be accepted**

### For more information:

- Visit [www.york.ca/NADF](http://www.york.ca/NADF)
- Contact the York Region's Supplies and Services Branch at 1-877-464-9675, ext. 1669

