### **MOSAIC** NEWCOMER FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

Mosaic means family to me. I have the best memories while working for Mosaic. One of the best memories I have in Mosaic is sharing food with the students/ program participants during end of class/ program pottucks. I feel privileged to be invited to these events. I love how everyone gather as a family and feel happy to share a part of their culture. This simple event makes me feel like I am traveling around the world and is one of the best and memorable experiences I have.

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- Pembina Trail Newcomer Hub

#### **Contributors:**

- Val Cavers
- Reem Abdulkader
- Amna Burki
- Maisa'a Ahmad
- Queehyung Nam
- Melinda Pascual and many more!

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Mosaic Minder is the quarterly publication of Mosaic - Newcomer Family Resource Network Inc., a registered Canadian charity.

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# **Mosaic Minder**

FALL2019

# World Refugee Day in Central Park



ffering refuge is an integral part of the history of Turtle Island and a point of pride for many Canadians. On June 20 we celebrated World Refugee Day by hosting a lunch time event in Central Park. Over 70% of newcomers to Canada who arrive refugees call the Central Park as neighbourhood their first Canadian home. 13 settlement organizations including Mosaic, the WestEnd Biz and Central Neighbourhoods collaborated on the planning and we all contributed skills and expertise to make the event a huge success. The event included a lunch time

concert and a human library made up of people who came to Canada as refugees and who wanted to share their stories. Approximately 200 people attended the event, including Mosaic staff, volunteers and participants.

The event started with a land acknowledgement and prayer by elder Carolyn Moar and included testimonials from folks who arrived in Winnipeg as refugees and also from a member of a



private sponsor group.

Val Cavers—Executive Director

IOTH ANNIVERSARY

## **Refugee Day at Valour FC game**

soccer team called Valour FC that is part of a brand new and exciting soccer movement in Canada. Valour FC play in the Canadian Premier League made up of 7 teams from across the country. Soccer, or Football as it's known in most of the world truly is the world's game. It is the most watched and played of any sport and it bridges communities, or sparks fierce rivalries depending on how you look at it! One thing is for sure, if you're a soccer fan you can talk to anyone in the world about soccer and in that sense it really is a force for good for those of us working for a diversity loving peaceful world. On June 22, Valour FC dedicated their home game to celebrate diversity in Winnipeg and they asked the settlement community as well as Folklorama to help them out. Mosaic was among several other settlement organizations that offered to help promote the event and make it a chance to show the diversity and positive contribution of those who

innipeg has a new professional

have arrived in Winnipeg as refugees. Mosaic offered to provide 11 kids who escorted players out on to the field. We recruited families from the Ryerson School hub, they were all Yazidi or Syrian children. Of course their families came along to enjoy the game. It was a great evening. It ended in a tie for the team, but definitely a win for the soccer loving newcomers who had the chance to participate.



Geraldine and Victoria with Mary along with her kids.



Val Cavers—Executive Director

### Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting Facilitator Training

ur teams continue to be enthusiastic and energetic. Spring and summer were full of productive activities, one of which was the Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting facilitator training that was attended by local, national, and international new trainees. Twenty-one program-passionate new facilitators from Winnipeg, Steinbach, Vancouver, Toronto, Prince Edward Island, Lithuania and Bangladesh whole-heartedly attended and actively participated in the training.

Maisa'a Haj Ahmad— Lead Mentor and Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting Coordinator



**PDEP new facilitators** 



### **Women Deliver Conference 2019**

t was wonderful news when all of the Canadian HIPPY coordinators were invited by the Mothers Matter Centre to attend the <u>Women Deliver Conference 2019</u> in Vancouver.

With More than 8,000 delegates from 165 different countries represented, the conference is one of the largest in the world! The conference started in the plenary hall with an amazing ceremony attended by the prime minister and a beautiful performance from the First Nation group in Vancouver. Everything was very organized and informative, the concurrent sessions, the power stage, the solution gallery which reflected the power of arts through interactive posters of advocacy solutions, in addition to that the film festival and the virtual reality movies and the youth zone which was an enthusiastic hub for intergenerational dialogue and reflection.

In the conference there was a great focus on gender equality and making sexual and reproductive health and rights come to life as well as ending child marriage. In addition to advocacy, system changes, ending mental health stigma and stepping up to use the power to drive progress and change were presented.

The conference was an eye opener for me that there were so many successes in the field of gender equality but there is still a long way to go!

The last day was held in the Mothers Matter Centre to discuss the HIPPY program in the different provinces and to learn from each other. I had the



chance to share the wonderful success that we have at Mosaic in Winnipeg with 142 mothers and children in the HIPPY program, a program that encourages early literacy before entering the school. Coming back to Winnipeg with all the new knowledge and to our safe space at Mosaic that is filled with wonderful women in all levels between childcare, teachers, admin, settlement workers and the family program team where we use our power to encourage other women and men to have a great strong community makes me feel proud and happy. I know that I am in the right place!

Reem Abdulkader - HIPPY Coordinator

4

### New staff

y name is John. I was born in Bogota, the capital of Colombia. I was raised in a Catholic family and attended multiple schools during my childhood and teen years. Back then, I never pictured myself as a teacher, but I certainly saw the power they have on others, the impact, good or bad, they had on kids. I believe now that teachers are after family, the most important variable in everyone's life. However, I must admit I ended up in a classroom due to circumstances rather than choice. I guess I was lucky.



It only took me a couple of classes during my practicum to fall in love with this profession. I taught in elementary and secondary schools and a few universities for over ten years. Then, I had the honour of becoming a Principal of one of the largest schools in my country, which in turn, led me to come to Canada to further my education. Once here, I volunteered for an EAL program while I was attending University. After a few months, I decided I wanted to go back to the classrooms. I realized how much I missed teaching, I decided to start fresh. I flew back to Colombia in December 2016 to convince my wife and my three children to give up everything there and come to this amazing country. We put our lives

in a few suitcases and started a journey that has not been easy but has been extremely rewarding.

I have been working for Mosaic since January 2019. I have met incredible individuals, and I get to work with great people every day; teachers and administrators who help and support each other. I share the days with



John enjoying one of his hobbies in Mosaic collaborative art project my students. Newcomers, who just like me, relish the opportunity of offering a better future for their families. I feel inspired by their strong spirits and humbled by their generosity and warm character. After all these years, I am teaching again. I guess I got lucky once more!

John Vasquez—ESL Teacher

# Mosaic's new initiatives

### Families for a Greener Earth

Mosaic is making a conscious and comprehensive effort to take many steps to reduce our ecological footprint and also to advocate and educate our families and parents in making changes that are good for us and for Mother Earth. Here are some of our new initiatives.

### Presentation on the environment by Take Pride Winnipeg

Take Pride Winnipeg is a local nonprofit that had many environmentally friendly initiatives especially in Manitoba schools including having a plastic bag collection drive to save plastics from going to landfills that are not recyclable. Many strategies were shared with staff on how to make a difference.

### **Composting bins**

Mosaic Head Office at Carlton has initiated composting. Food waste is a big contributor to greenhouse gases and if food waste can be composted rather than dumped in landfills that causes release of methane, it will help the earth. Mosaic initiative was started in the summer and already saves two large bins weekly from landfills. This will result in thousands of pounds of food waste saved from landfills. We are also modelling for newcomers how to take part in environmentally friendly actions.

### Participating in Global Climate Strike

September 27th, 2019 marked the first Global Climate strike in Winnipeg. 7 million people around the world participated in a marches and peaceful protests to show companies and governments that our environment and future is at stake. Greta Thunberg the young Swedish teenager has drawn support especially from the youth to bring the environmental crisis to the forefront.

Mosaic staff from many locations participated along with 12,000 other Manitobans to make our voice one with Greta in this unprecedented occasion.

WHAT DO WE WANT? CLIMATE ACTION WHEN DO WE WANT IT? NOW



Queehuyng, Stephanie, Kirsten, Reem and Pat at the climate strike

Amna Burki — Family Programs Coordinator

# You can always Find Yourself in Mosaic

n June 18, 2019, Mosaic's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary quietly passed by. It was a busy day, as usual and we hardly acknowledged that 10 years ago on that date, our official status as an incorporated not for profit in the province of Manitoba began.

Our official celebration was at our AGM the following week on June 26! The business meeting was concise and contained all of the mandatory elements, a review of the year by the board members, passing changes to the by-laws, and accepting the audited financial statements and auditor. We also acknowledged staff members who have been with Mosaic for 5 years, and for the first time, those who have been with us for 10.

One accomplishment for the board of directors this year was the establishment of 5 new strategic priorities for Mosaic and a revised Mission Statement. These were all revealed at the meeting, and are available on our website.



After the business meeting our guest speaker and founding board member, Briar Jamieson spoke about how and why she found herself in Mosaic. It was

lovely to hear her reflections on her personal journey as the child of a Japanese mother who had been interned during World War II, and how she



wanted to repay the debt she felt towards those who had assisted her family in that difficult time.

Briar's story was stirring and poignant and was repeated in many variations by many people who took the time to reveal the reason for their attachment to this special place. Most of the stories that people shared with us over the year are published in our annual report. I encourage you to read them on our website.

There was a surprise acknowledgement of founding management as well, and I think I can speak for Jean and Linda by saying that I feel particularly honoured by the amazing people that I have the pleasure of working with every day.

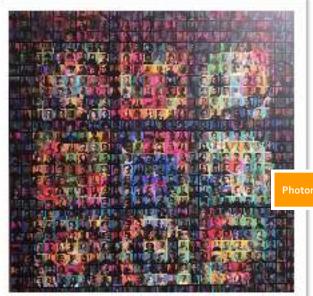
What's a celebration without a salsa band?? We danced the night away and snacked on incredible pizza all home made on site by Stephanie and her helpers!! And many other wonderful snacks besides. Of course there was cake! Huge thank you to all of the staff members who contributed to this event, it was a great success!

Val Cavers — Executive Director

# New collaborative art at Mosaic

10<sup>th</sup> part of our anniversary S celebrations 2 we created new collaborative art pieces. The first is a photo mosaic that contains over 600 portraits of our students, children, staff, board and volunteers. The portraits taken were by portrait а photographer and then put into a software program to arrange them into a mosaic depicting our original student and staff made quilt. The result is amazing, please come by the office to see it!

At a staff gathering day, on April I, each person created a small painted canvas. Those individual canvasses were later transformed into a curve mounted piece that is now the centre piece of our entrance way at Carlton. This colourful attraction is absolutely gorgeous and depicts everything from country flags to abstract designs. Thank you to all staff members who contributed to this beautiful art that brightens up your day, each day, as you enter





Nadia, Roula, Eunhee in the collaborative art project



397 Carlton St—Entrance door

Mosaic.

Photomosaic 2019

# LINC Summer 2019

ith some construction planned for the Carlton site where the summer classes usually take place, this year we made arrangements for our summer to happen at our Fort Garry site in the south. It was disappointing for our students living in the downtown area but at the same time exciting for our students living in the south as it was their

first chance to participate in Mosaic summer classes.

We ran two, three-hour-classes in the morning, five days a week for five weeks and of course with childcare. One was a lower level class where students ranged from Foundation to CLB I. The other was a little higher with students' CLBs between I and 3. Sofiya and Katherine were the two wonderful summer teachers and the students fell in love with them and were shedding tears as they were exchanging many thank yous on the last day.

On the last day of class, we had a celebration with our annual Family Literacy Day. This year's theme was Canada. We brought all students and children into one classroom and started the day with everyone making their passports. They cut, folded, wrote, and drew to make the passports in which they would get stamps for each activity they completed throughout the day. We then divided them into three groups and we had three different stations setup and each group visited each station to enjoy different activities. First stop was the book station where the students and their children worked together on creating the ABC book. Second stop was the Dancing station and the last stop was the Quiz station where they had to answer questions about Canada. And we wrapped up the day with some fruit and maple cookies.

Thanks to the teachers, the childcare team, the settlement team, the admin team, and most of all, the students, Mosaic had another great summer and we look forward to meeting these students again soon in September.

Queehyung Nam — LINC Coordinator

# Summer Youth Camp



from Robertson College, and Ji Haeng

or the third year, Mosaic offered and ran a very successful summer youth camp!

The program ran at Knox Church every day for 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon for a total of 8 weeks. Our wonderful summer youth leaders Skylar, Manahil, Sasha Penell, a practicum student from Robertson College, and Ji Haeng an international student from a Canadian work experience were very keen that the children had a great time, with a quality program including games, physical activities and healthy snacks.

The program was well attended by families with older children that needed a summer camp while their parent and younger sibling(s) attended a family program.

Thank you to our team! You are amazing! You made this summer a memorable time to the children and their families!

And thank you to Winnipeg Harvest for their great contribution of healthy snacks to aid the health and wellbeing of our children!

"The Summer Youth Camp gave Skylar, Sasha and I a great opportunity to connect with the kids through fun activities like taking trips to the splash pad, baking together, and various craft activities. By the end of the summer, the camp was starting to feel like one large

family. It was lovely to hear the parents thank us and tell us how much their children enjoyed our camp on the last day." Manahil



Reem Abdulkader – HIPPY Coordinator

# Trip to Alaska

On July 20th, I started a 10,000-kilometre motorcycle trip with my friend. The destination was Alaska in the United States, which crossed the Top of the World Hwy! This is a very rare trip, an unforgettable motorcycle trip!

I started the trip with my friend; I was so excited and I am still excited right now to share my trip with her. We planned the two week trip to the dreaming destination---Alaska. We passed through 4 provinces including MB, SK, AB, BC and one territory---Yukon. We also went across the Top of the World Hwy. We experienced sun exposure, rain soaking, windstorms and muddy roads during the trip. A few times the motorcycle driver, me, and the motorcycle were flying to the sky! It was thrilling! I joked that this trip was like the trailer of the Hollywood movie "Fast & Furious 10". The motorcycle driver couldn't get out of bed for 3 days. I felt I was still on the motorcycle and I felt I was still in the motel bed at night for the first few days after I came back. The whole experience was really thrilling, exciting and enjoyable.

People will think that a motorcycle is cool but it is also dangerous. There is no safety belt, no window and you can neither change position nor sleep. It is even more dangerous for the motor cycle passenger. Please applaud people who travel by motorcycle next time you see them.

You will love riding a motorcycle once you learn how to drive one and will be addicted to it. I am addicted to it even though I am just a passenger. Now you know how charming it is.

Every breath will become different when you drive the motorcycle into nature. you will automatically breathe deeply and every inch of your skin, every cell and every hair can truly feel the long embrace that the nature gives (close your eyes, you will feel that you were carried by the motorcycle and turned left and right and went straight in nature's chest). Of course you will be kissed by the heavy wind of the prairie too! You are thoroughly and completely released yourself!

You found yourself and perhaps you found the answer of these questions too: Who are you? Where do you come from? And where will you go?

Other than the beautiful scenery, we cherish the short but wonderful time together with everybody. We made many friends. We drank and ate together and took lots of pictures for good memories.



# ... Trip to Alaska

One regret is that we missed the aurora borealis. Maybe because we were too tired every day and went to sleep as soon as we arrived at a location and slept until daylight the next day.

We missed many attractions because of the limits of time but the significance of this trip and our mood were not affected at all.

Yi Qun — LINC Student - Sheila's classroom

# **CIBC** Run

his is what I learned from my running friends today. I'm grateful that you opened your hearts to me. You got my admiration for being courageous without losing your tenderness. In the past, I've witnessed some family members and friends battle for the race of living and reinventing themselves after the Breast Cancer diagnosis. I certainly cannot speak for them, but I can empathize with them. My closest experience was having a mammography and waiting in a cold room after the terrifying phrase "we need to make another one... ". No one is with you in THAT moment; in THAT particular moment it's just you and your soul. As in a race, there are moments that you need a partner and friends for support; there are also moments that you are battling on your own, with your own demons, fears, or simply trying to maintain a flowing balance in your breathing, in your mind and body. The start line is never easy but it's also full of hope, it's THE moment when you need to connect or reconnect within yourself to keep calm during the uncertainty. It will be full of people that you'll lose along the way, but there will be also getting the strength, support and kindness from others more touched, as well as getting encouragement from lots of strangers. It's totally ok to ask for time alone, some hugs, or even "to take a break" but whatever happens, you don't give up, you just keep going.

#### Thank you to our donors!

Geraldine Gruszczyk—Volunteer Coordinator



# Visit to the Farm

ast August, families attending Mosaic Family Programs were invited to visit Heart Acres Farm situated in St. Adolph, Manitoba.

Heart Acres grows a diversity of vegetables, herbs, fruits and flowers on I acre of land. They use ecological practices to supply our communities with healthy and sustainable local produce, while also prioritizing soil and water health.

Laura and Chad, the owners, were amazing hosts helping moms and children to have a wonderful experience by learning about growing vegetables and taking care of soil.

They also delighted us with amazing loaves of sourdough, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, a vegan cheese spread as snacks. **Thank you Laura and Chad!** The families from Mosaic enjoyed a wonderful time at the farm.

We are looking forward for the next visit!





Gabriela Galli—Parenting Program Coordinator

# **Our Supporters**

\*

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada



# Wiggling, Giggling and Munching in Summer 2019



his summer was special because we had not only parents and preschoolers join us for 5 weeks of Wiggle Giggle and Munch (WGM), also our Mosaic youth program joined us too. Many times we had more than 40 participants! We met every Tuesday and Thursday between 1:00-3:00pm.

Mosaic's WGM is always one of the most popular programs in the summer. As we progress through the weeks, children and their caregivers get more comfortable saying the motto of the program **An active child is a healthy child, A healthy child in in active child**. Children love to elaborate on what that means to them. One little girl Aysha added that wiggling is about moving in many different ways and giggling is laughing while having fun and munching is when you crunch on healthy fruits and veggies and they yum, yum, yum to taste. It delights us as facilitators of this program to see that our little ones understand the purpose and intent of our program.

Summer WGM is also a chance for many people new to Canada to experience a delightful parent and child physical and nutritional literacy program. We had parents, children and facilitators from all over the world, from far and wide places like India, Eritrea, Burma, Brazil, Pakistan, Somalia, Philippines, Mexico, China and many other places. It is a great way for families to show diversity to their children in terms of foods we eat, languages we speak, similar concerns we have for our children's healthy growth and development, and also the similar ways of moving from all over the world.

Here are some of our highlights from our sessions.

# Special visit from Kelly to teach us about outdoor play

Kelly came to play with us as part of WGM on a beautiful summer day in late July. She set up 4 different stations under the shade of large and beautiful trees in Central Park. Children of all ages were thrilled with the stations that including:

**Reading Station**: Books in baskets laid on cozy blankets for the enjoyment of parents and children. There were many board books and picture books on topics that varied from nature, weather, anatomy and movement.

**Mud Kitchen**: This was a favourite for all ages. Had many pots, pans, muffin tins, ample mud and water and endless imagination of children. they were not aware of anything else.

# Wiggling, Giggling and Munching in Summer 2019



Kids and moms enjoying at the park

Float or Sink station: This was a large container with water and a basket near it with many objects. The children had to guess whether an item from the basket (a twig, a ball, a toy, a small metal tray) would sink or float in the water tub.

Leaf rubbing station: Here parents and children experimented and learned about many different types of leaves, shapes, colours and sizes by pressing a paper on to a leaf and shading it with a crayon and then outlining the shape with a crayon. What better way to learn about nature, art, math and science in an outdoor setting.

### The Reading Tent

This was a two hour outside tent in Central Park organized by the West End Biz, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July. Children from our program enjoyed stories, crafts and rhymes and all participants left with a take home book, Good Morning, Canada by Andrea Lynn Beck. Everyone really loved the rhyme on the tune of row row row your boat.



WGM participants at the Central Park

Win Win Winnipeg. This is our home. Having fun in Central Park. No one is alone.

### Visit by Winnipeg Harvest

Anthony from the Harvest came to see how we benefit the community from food that we collect from the Harvest. We are able to meet the mandate of our program with the help of Harvest in introducing families to the idea and benefits of snacking on healthy wholesome foods like fruits, vegetables and whole grains. Sometimes it is completely new food that they have never come across back home. For instance one of our families from India loved sugar snap peas and had tasted nothing like that before. We had extra bags for them from harvest that families could take home.



We would like to thank on behalf of Mosaic all our parents and children who participated, our hard working and fun facilitators and our partner organizations that made our summer program possible and successful.

See you next summer!



Facilitators playing a game

Amna Burki — Family Programs Coordinator

# **Our staff**

### **Congratulations Sheila!**

Sheila got her

### M.Ed in Second Language Education



Sheila graduated



Sheila at the university gym

# Thanksgiving @ Mosaic

now a little bit more Mosaic's students. Here, some thoughts about Thanksgiving:

I am thankful for Canada; Canada helps me and helps my family. I am thankful to be safe in Canada. I am thankful Canada helps y children go to school. I am thankful Canada improves my life.

### Raja Sharaf

Thanks God that you give health and peace for my family and I am thankful for EI food, Clothing and that I can pay for the house I everting am thankful for Canadian government and the English school. They are good and free that is why I am thankful for everything.

Tigist

I am thankful of God, Thank Sloth for my family. Thankful for Mosaic they help us so talking writing. I am thankful for Mosaic keeping, my child in the daycare. Thankful for my wife she cooks food on time. I am thankful for Kathrine she is very good teacher. I can understand.

### Sulymen

Thank you for Mosaic because it has many classroom, childcares, teacher, dictionary, notebook, etc. It is a help for newcomers. Before I did not know how to speak, and introduce myself, use correct sentences, send emails, make emergency calls. Check the weather, check transit etc. Now, My English is very good, I know everything. I pray for Mosaic It is still here for the next 100 years! I would like to say again. Thank you mosaic. I would like to thank God because you save me my life. I say thanks to God and thanks for my family and my husband, my family makes me happy.

### Addis

I am thankful for my God for giving al life; I am thankful for my parent's for giving me care. I am thankful for my county for giving me life there. I am thankful for Canadian because in safety life. I am thankful for my teacher for giving me knowledge of Canada.

#### Talal

#### Khin

# Field trip to Pollock Island

n September 19, 2019, both the teachers, Sheila and Flo took our classes at Southlands location on a field trip. It was a very pleasant and educational trip for us because the day before Sheila taught us about "Directions" and that lesson was so helpful for our field trip. Before going, both the teachers didn't point out the place where we were going to. The teachers asked us to divide ourselves in groups, 3-4 classmates in one group and each group travelled in one car. The teachers advised that all drivers should just focus on driving and the other passengers should read the directions given to reach our destination. We also had to read some questions to identify landmarks and buildings. And when we reached our destination we needed to answer questions after reading the information boards.

It was surprising for us because we reached there without any GPS device and our destination, POLLOCK ISLAND, was not too far away but in St.Norbert. That area is a very quiet and calm location covered with huge trees, flowers, fruits and a beautiful view of the river. That place has fresh and good smelling air. The Pollock family donated this 16 acre island to the people of Winnipeg. Nowadays this Island is under the supervision of the City of Winnipeg.



In my opinion the City of Winnipeg should look after this charming place as soon as possible and think about its development by landscaping, fixing some children's play structures and sitting arrangement for families. I hope this island will be famous and people will know about the generosity of the Pollock Family and how they lived at this place and survived when there were floods every spring. The island can become a good family recreational spot in the future, especially for the people in the south side of Winnipeg.

Tahir Mahmood—Southlands—Sheila's student

# **Gratitude Corner**

### Socktober 2019

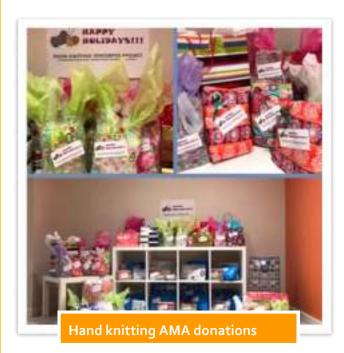
Big THANK YOU to **Krista Wasney** Grade 2/3 Teacher, Neil Campbell School More than 230 students and their children received donated socks for this winter.

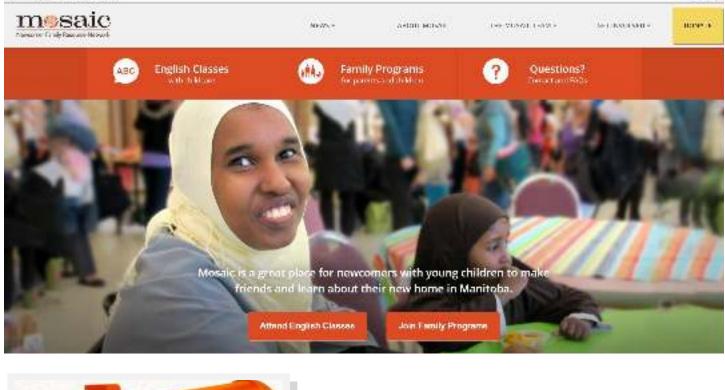


Big THANK YOU to Argentinean Manitoban Association for its kind donations of knitted winter tuques, scarves and necks to keep our students and children warm.

Big THANK YOU to **Shannon MacFarlane** For your thoughtful donations of knitted scarves, tuques and gloves.









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facebook.com/mbmosaic

#### RYERSON HUB (SOUTH END NEWCOMER FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE)

10 Ryerson Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3T 3P9

HUB HOURS – MONDAY TO FRIDAY : 8:45AM – 4:30PM

# Pembina Trails Newcomer Community Hub



# Welcome to our Newcomer Community Hub

### In this Issue...

- Welcome to our Newcomer Community Hub
- Empowering people
- Bike Rodeo
- Fall Schedule

### Contributor:

- Maisa'a Haj Ahmad

### hat is the Hub?

The Newcomer • Community Service

Hub is a family resource centre for • newcomers who live in or near the Fort • Richmond area. The aim of our team is to • provide a safe and warm, welcoming • space for these families. Here, they can • find support and services but also develop and make a strong connection with each • other and their new community.

The origin of the hub:

The Hub is an amazing and innovative project created through the efforts • of Pembina Trails School Division, • Immigration Partnership Winnipeg, Manitoba Association of Newcomer • Serving Organizations (MANSO) and a • group of community organizations

working together:

- Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network
- Welcome Place
- Accueil Francophone
- Aurora Family Therapy Centre
- Family Dynamics
- Jewish Child and Family ServicesIthy Child Coalition
- Society for Manitobans with Disabilities.
- Manitoba Adolescent Treatment
   Centre (MATC)
  - N.E.E.D.S. Inc.
- Société de la francophonie manitobaine (SFM)
- Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
- The Fort Garry/St. Norbert Healthy Child Coalition

# Welcome to our Newcomer Community Hub

Thanks to this deep and generous commitment, all the organizations are working together to provide services in the same community space.

### Our clients:

The Hub supports newcomers in the city. Originally we focused on Yazidi refugees from northern Iraq and Syria, but gradually some of the programs were open to the whole community with the aim to help to integrate everyone in to a safe and welcoming environment.

### Our Location:

The Hub is located in Ryerson School, Fort Richmond.

### Why a hub?

The Hub was created because many of the services for new refugees are located in downtown Winnipeg. But many families are settled in the Fort Richmond area. The objective is to create a welcoming space where all the organizations that serve these families have a place to meet clients and run needed programs.

### Our Staff:

Thanks to Winnipeg Foundation, Mosaic Newcomer Resource Network is providing the following staff for the Hub: a Hub coordinator, a childcare worker and a lead mentor. With this, we guarantee the agencies can work together in an organized and calm environment where the participants can see familiar faces and feel welcomed and supported. Our Programs and support services:

These are some of the Hub programs



- Parenting Programs like Nobody's Perfect (Mosaic)
- Bonding with Family Bookmaking (Mosaic)
- Play to Learn, Learn to Play (Mosaic)
- Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting (Mosaic)
- Wiggle, Giggle and Munch (Mosaic)
- Drop in Program (Mosaic)
- Stress Buster Program (JCFS)
- Conversation circle (Family Dynamics)
- Healthy living for us (Family Dynamics)
- Ryerson Women's group (Aurora Family Therapy Centre)
- Mom & Kids Program (Aurora Family Therapy Centre)

The hub also has case managers from Welcome Place, Accueil Francophone and Aurora Family Therapy Centre who meet their clients, and a nurse from WHRA is coming to support the participants and meet various identified needs.

Please consult the Hub schedule in order to confirm the current programs.

Maisa'a Haj Ahmad - Lead Mentor and Positive Discipline Coordinator

# **Empowering People**



One of the main objectives of the Hub is to support and help newcomers to integrate into their new community. We strongly believe we can do this by empowering them.

In our programs we offer skill building that newcomers need to successfully integrate in to their new community. Our activities are strategically designed to give people self-confidence for this new journey.

This is the case of our Hub Facilitator, Khounaf. Khounaf came from Iraq 10 years ago. She attended Mosaic programs and then she started to be part of the Mosaic HUB FEM program.

The Family Engagement Mentorship Program (FEM) is a program for newcomers who are interestedin working with children and or in a family resource centre setting. The program offers newcomers the opportunity to prepare themselves, get the knowledge, the skills and the confidence they need to embrace their future work life in Canada. The program works by scaffolding learning: starting with simple tasks and adding complexity until the participants are ready to take on the role of lead in a family resource centre. This process ensures that the transition is smooth and successful taking in to consideration the different abilities, backgrounds, stories and needs of each participant. In the end we are helping newcomers to give back to their community.

During the Mentoring, they are part of different Family Programs like Play to Learn, Learn to Play; Nobody's Perfect, Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting, and Bonding with Family Bookmaking. The participants get experience running the family drop in, where they learn and practice their new skills supported by our mentee facilitators.

After completing this program, Khounaf was selected as a facilitator for the Hub. Now with her new role she can support others from her community.

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# **Bike Rodeo**

he partnership between Mosaic and Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) was fruitful. The two organizations came together and successfully ran a Bike Rodeo event at the Ryerson School Newcomer Service Hub. 13 29 children The adults and participated. presentation included both theory and hands-on components. The theory part of the presentation was for the entire group, and lasted 30 minutes. The practical component was for the children in the schoolyard, and took 30 minutes. MPI brought 15 bikes and helmets for those who did not have them.

The focus and the aim of this rodeo was to make sure the kids know and understand the rules and they can operate their bikes safely when they are outside and riding unsupervised, in particular.

We hope the bike rodeo helped reinforce the importance of the safety rules and reminded the kids of essential things such as wearing a helmet when riding a bike.

We are grateful to MPI and we look forward to having another one next summer.



Participants at the workshop

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Pembina Trail Newcomer Community Hub



