



December 2017  
Fall Issue

Multicultural Association of Fredericton inc.



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### MCAF Board of Directors 2017-2018



The MCAF Annual General Meeting was held on October 19 at Grant Harvey Centre.  
The MCAF Annual Report is now available on our website: <https://goo.gl/JYGyz7>

The newly elected MCAF Board of Directors are:  
Executive:

- **Bin Zhang, PhD:** President
- **Charit Khatri:** 1st Vice President
- **Anne Soucy:** 2nd Vice President
- **Baukje (Bo) Miedema, PhD:** Past-President
- **Rhonda Broad:** Secretary
- **Scovasky Ramrattan-Needle:** Treasurer
- Directors:

- \* **Theresa Bartlett-Chase**      \* **Madhu Verma**
- \* **Lindsay Bowman**        \* **Dirk Deurloo**
- \* **Anne Marie Hartford**   \* **Sandy Liu**
- \* **Aamir Jamal**            \* **Deborah Nobes**
- \* **Josie Mooers**

### Up-coming MCAF Events & Activities

- **Santa Drop in Party, Dec 6, 2017, 6-8pm, MCAF**
- **Black History Month, February 2018**

More info about up-coming MCAF events at [www.mcaf.nb.ca](http://www.mcaf.nb.ca) or follow us on



### MCAF Staff Serving 10 & 20 Years



MCAF would like to thank the following staff for their years of services:

- Above (L-R): 10 years:
- **Uta Doerr,** Language Coordinator
  - **Jorge Dietrich:** IT Instructor
  - **Irena Milchenko,** Director of Finances & Accounting
- Right: 20 Years
- **Bonnie Doughty,** Employment Director



### MCAF Newcomer Scholarship 2017



8 Newcomer Scholarships awarded to:

- **Khuong Huynh**            - **Vivian Shege**
- **Vanessa Shege**        - **Vivina Shege**
- **Monica Paz**            - **Daniela Paz**
- **Jennifer Roddis**       - **Obadah Matar Alhaj Ali**

## *Congratulations to Skills Launch program graduates*

The Skills Launch Immigrant Youth Employability class recently completed the in class component of their program. Over the past 4 months, the students have participated in career exploration at NBCC, completed Workplace Essential Skills (WES) training, volunteered in the community and prepared for employment in the Canadian workplace. They have started their 6 month job placements. The successful graduates and their placements are:



- **Francis Putu** at Radio CHSR 97.9fm
- **Shakira Niyonizeye**, Personal Support Worker (PSW) at Paradise Villa Inc
- **Yusuf Mohammed Shire**, Outreach Culture Broker Worker at MCAF
- **Asia Alabbas**, Assistant Pharmacy Tech at Bowman Pharmasave
- **Mizgin Huseyin**, Teacher's assistant at Fredericton Early Learning Centre
- **Bayan Ayoub**, Assistant at Greener Village
- **Lila Bhattarai**, PSW at Pine Grove Nursing Home
- **Nir Maya Bhandari**, PSW at Pine Grove Nursing Home
- **Tannen Gbotoe**, PSW at Paradise villa

We wish them the best of luck in their placements!

## *Cultural Peer Outreach Project*



The MCAF Cultural Peer Outreach Project (CPOP) “Cultural Brokers”, funded by the United Way Central NB, trains cultural brokers representing diverse ethno-cultural and linguistic communities to facilitate newcomers’ access to government and community services. Immigrants from diverse cultural backgrounds and with high English and/or French language skills receive a range of trainings including cultural brokering, community interpretation, mental health & addictions, family violence, cultural competency, etc. With this additional knowledge, trained cultural brokers will increase their participation in the community and be better equipped to support newcomers, with lower language skills, to enhance their settlement and integration process. CPOP aims to encourage & assist government and community organisations such as, Mental Health &

Addictions, Fredericton City Police, Victims Services, Social Development, etc. to access resources & expertise of cultural brokers to offer inclusive & culturally sensitive services for newcomers. So far, there are **34 cultural brokers speaking 26 languages.**

## *UNB Nursing Students Placement*



MCAF sincerely thanks eight 3rd year UNB nursing students who contributed 10 clinical hrs/week during their 10 week community field placement at MCAF. Nursing students delivered health orientation sessions with MCAF students and clients on topics including; orientation to Fredericton Downtown Community Health Center, cold and flu, over the counter medications, personal hygiene, nutrition, women’s health, physical activity, dressing for the weather etc. Nursing students, in partnership with Fredericton

Community Downtown Health Centre, provided free flu shots for 525 newcomers ages 6 months to 70. At the MCAF Wellness Fair, attended by over 100 newcomers, nursing students provided information on nutrition, healthy vital signs, as well as taking heart rate, blood sugars and Blood Pressure. In addition, the students organized weekly home visits with three newcomer special needs families and discussed topics such as coping with teenagers, planning weekly chores for kids, diabetes and nutrition. They also participated in and supported MCAF Halloween Party, MCAF Smart Food Bags Project and “How to work with Community Interpreters” Training.

THANK YOU and we wish you success in your studies and career!

## *Rainbow of Cultures Summer Camps*



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Rainbow of Cultures Summer Camps, a 6-week unique summer enrichment program for children aged 5-12, had the highest enrollment ever, with **185 children participating in the highly successful camps. The children, summer camp counselors and volunteers represented 29 countries including::**

- |               |               |            |           |            |               |            |
|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|
| • Afghanistan | • Colombia    | • Ethiopia | • Iraq    | • Libya    | • Rwanda      | • Uganda   |
| • Bhutan      | • Congo       | • Honduras | • Israel  | • Mexico   | • Senegal     | • Ukraine  |
| • Burundi     | • Cote Ivoire | • India    | • Jordan  | • Nepal    | • South Korea | • Vietnam  |
| • Canada      | • Egypt       | • Iran     | • Liberia | • Pakistan | • Syria       | • Zimbabwe |
| • China       |               |            |           |            |               |            |

Special thanks to our:

Funders:

- \* **NB Population Growth Division**
- \* **Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada**
- \* **Federal Summer Work Experience Program**
- \* **Summer Employment & Experience Development Program**
- \* **YMCA of Greater Toronto, Quebec Summer Student Exchange Program**

Sponsors/donors:

- |                         |                                      |  |  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| * <b>Sodexo</b>         | * <b>Charlotte Street Art Centre</b> | * <b>Betty Lee</b>                     | * <b>Governor Carleton Chapter I.O.D.E</b> |
| * <b>Andrew Maclean</b> | * <b>Fredericton Quilters Guild</b>  | * <b>McCann Worldgroup Canada Inc.</b> |  |

### *Terry Fox Run Fundraiser*



MCAF language teachers and students raised over \$771 for the Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research.

### *Donation from Avalon Spa*



MCAF would like to thank to Avalon Spa uptown who donated \$1,500 to the MCAF newcomer Scholarship Fund.

## *MCAF Award of Excellence 2017*

MCAF honoured Donna & Sandy Gordon and Dr. Mike & Shelley Ramey and with the MCAF Award of Excellence



### Ms. Donna and Mr. Sandy Gordon

Donna Gordon joined the MCAF Board in 2005. Over the past 12 years, Donna has demonstrated remarkable dedication and made valuable contributions to MCAF's growth. She has served on a number of committees including the Executive, HR and nomination. Donna has spent countless hours on the HR committee, developing organizational policies and charts and being involved in the hiring process of many full and part-time staff. Also Donna was one of the founding member of the MCAF New-comer Scholarship Fund to assist newcomers with their post-secondary education. With her tireless and dedicated efforts, she has supported MCAF to become what it is today.

Sandy Gordon has been a very accomplished bag pipe player for the Fredericton Society of Saint Andrew Pipe Band for over 50 years and been instrumental in turning the band into the top level band in New Brunswick. The Band performs each year at the Highland Games, Cultural Expressions Festival and many other community events. The Band travels all over the Maritimes and beyond to demonstrate their talents. Sandy also developed a training program to bring the bag piping and drumming to young players in our community. Donna and Sandy's contributions and passion for MCAF and for the Multicultural community inspires all of us.



### Dr. Mike Ramey and Ms. Shelley Ramey

Dr. Mike Ramey and Ms. Shelley Ramey have been one of the most engaged dental practitioners in Fredericton offering their skill, space and supports to newcomers settling in the community. Since the first wave of Syrian families arrived in Fredericton in 2015, Dr Mike and Shelley Ramey have opened their private clinic to MCAF clients outside of their office hours and on weekends. They have provided full dental services and supports to newcomer families, often above and beyond what was covered by the Interim Federal Health program. Dr and Ms Ramey and their dedicated staff provided several oral health information sessions to newcomers on site at MCAF. Dr. Ramey was

also instrumental in utilizing his networks within the dental community to generate a list of local dentists who have gone on to provide a significant amount of care and support to newcomers in the community. Dr. Ramey and Ms. Ramey have demonstrated the spirit of the MCAF Award of Excellence by generously supporting the wellbeing of newcomers above and beyond what was hoped for, and for mobilizing their networks to ensure that newcomers have dental supports in place.

## *Connecting Community Connections*



MCAF partnered with the Atlantic Region Association of Immigrant Serving Agencies to coordinate Professional Development Training in Fredericton for over 50 Volunteer Management/Community Connections staff of immigrant serving agencies in the Atlantic Region. Keynote speaker, Paula Speevak, President & CEO of Volunteer Canada presented Tools and Trends for Volunteer Management, training, orientation, boundaries and liabilities. Other workshops included engaging newcomer volunteers and the LGBTQ1 community.

## *Halloween Party*



Over 330 newcomers participated in the MCAF annual Halloween party enjoying Halloween treats, games, piñata and a costume challenge. Special thanks to MCAF newcomer youth volunteers, UNB Nursing students & international students who helped organize such a wonderful evening.