

# Community Supports for Families Who Have Recently Immigrated to Strathcona County

<https://www.eics.ab.ca/parents-and-students/new-to-the-district>



ELK ISLAND  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS

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## Strathcona County Library - Family & Community Services

**Location:** #200 (second floor) 501 Festival Avenue (in the community centre, just across from the library)

**Contact Information:** (780) 464-4044

**Supports:** Free drop-in on the 2nd (7:00 - 8:30 pm) and 4th Mondays (1:30 - 3:00 pm) each month to learn and connect with fellow newcomers.

Learn more about your new community, including:

- Affordable Services
- Counselling Services and crisis contacts
- Community Resources
- Connecting through volunteering
- Finding Childcare
- Finance Information (investment and tax information)
- Healthcare options
- Home support
- Newcomer Connect
- Parent Connect
- Parent Teen Conflict Resolution
- Recreation/Activity passes and subsidized programs
- Work search tips and techniques
- Youth/Teen Services

## [Strathcona County Library - Settlement Services](#) (click on link for more information)

**Location:** Strathcona County Library, 401 Festival Ln, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 5P7

**Contact Information:** Grazyna Pakos (Settlement Worker) - (780) 410-8603

**Supports:** The Library offers resources, classes and partnerships with community services to support new immigrants and English-language learners.

Information & Orientation on:

- Life in Canada
- Improving English/French
- Employment/Job Search
- Education/Training
- Housing
- Transportation
- Money and Finances
- Health/Health Insurance
- Community Connections

Referral Services:

- Community/social services
- ESL/Language Classes
- Recreation Services
- Immigration issues
- Citizenship classes
- Government Programs
- Interpretation/Translation
- Legal Services

[Strathcona Community Activities book](#) - programs/activities for all ages and stages

[Community Adult Literacy Center](#) (click on link for more information)

**Location:** Strathcona County Library, 401 Festival Ln, Sherwood Park, AB T8A 5P7

**Contact Information:** (780)464-8441

**Supports:**

- We match adults who wish to improve their English skills with volunteer tutors.
- This free program serves learners who are permanent residents or Citizens of Canada residing in Alberta.
- Each volunteer tutor and student meet weekly for a two hour tutoring session. They work on the goals the student identifies.



**ESL Circle - Drop in**  
**Mondays & Thursdays**  
**6:00 - 7:30 pm 1:00 - 2:45 pm**

**Drop in ESL**  
**Wednesdays**  
**7:00 - 8:45 pm**

For more information about either of these programs, call the Community Adult Learning and Literacy Society (CALLS) 780-464-8441 or visit [www.whatdidiyoulearntoday.ca](http://www.whatdidiyoulearntoday.ca)

## Edmonton and Area Supports

### Catholic Social Services

**Location:** 8212 – 118 Avenue, Edmonton, T5B 0S3

**Phone:** (780) 424-3545

**Supports:** We offer support for the settlement of immigrants and refugees as well as provide counselling that strengthens individuals and families, helps recovering addicts and supports women facing crisis pregnancies.

- [Learn about health, social, and community services](#)
- [Prepare for your children's success in school](#)
- [Understand forms and applications](#)
- [Learn how to sponsor a family member](#)
- [Assess your English language level](#)
- [Find the right English school or program](#)
- [Practice your English](#)
- [Plan your education and career path](#)

- [Find a job](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [Connect with your cultural or faith community](#)
- [Learn about Canadian culture](#)
- [Prepare for the Canadian Citizenship test](#)
- [Learn about parenting in Canada](#)
- [Manage your personal and family challenges](#)

*\*click on the links for more information*

## Edmonton Immigrant Services Association (EISA)

**Location:** Suite #201, 10720-113 street, Edmonton, T5H 3H8

**Phone:** (780) 477-0883

**Support:** EISA exists in order to provide programs and direct services relating to Integration, Settlement, Adaptation and Education for new immigrants, refugees and first generation Canadians in Edmonton and surrounding areas regardless of age, gender, religion, nationality or ethnic origin to assist them make a smooth transition into Canadian life.

- Information and orientation
- Support Services - translation, interpretation and commissioner for oaths services
- Youth settlement services
- English as Additional Language Class

## [Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers](#) ((click on link for more information))

**Location:** Suite #201, 10720-113 street, Edmonton, T5H 3H8

**Phone:** (780) 462-6924

**Support:** - This immigrant settlement agency focuses on the successful and integrative settlement of newcomers to Edmonton. There are resources for employment, language instruction and parenting.

- Employment Services
- English Language Class
- Settlement Services
- Connecting to the Community

## Multicultural Mental Health Resource Centre

**Website:** <http://www.multiculturalmentalhealth.ca/services/>

**Support:**

The Multicultural Mental Health Resource Centre (MMHRC) seeks to improve the quality and availability of mental health services for people from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, including immigrants, refugees, and members of established ethnocultural communities. Addressing issues of language, culture, religion and other aspects of cultural diversity can promote greater equity in mental health care.

- Booklet: [Growing Up in a New Land: A Guide for Newcomer Parents](#)

# Useful Links

## Government

- **Provincial Government** - Mayor: [Rod Frank](#), MLA: [Annie McKittrick](#), MP: [Garnett Genuis](#)
- [Alberta Works](#) 🇨🇦 - Assistance with unemployment and finding jobs, finding skilled workers and helping Albertans with low incomes cover their basic costs of living.
- [Association of Alberta Registry Agents](#) 🇨🇦 - Information about Alberta registry agents, including office hours, office locations and their available registry services (Road Tests, Commissioner for Oaths, Corporate Registries, etc). Search by registry name, city or postal code Includes distance calculator.
- [Government of Alberta - My Alberta Supports](#) 🇨🇦 - This tool helps you determine whether you are eligible for various assistance services related to childcare, employment, disabilities, and more.

## Community supports

- **Affordable housing and services**
  - [Heartland Housing](#)
  - [Food bank](#)
- **Job search supports**
  - [Career events in the region](#): Upcoming career and job fairs across the province.
  - [Federal Employment Insurance](#)
  - [Library career resource centre](#): Including free resume tutoring.
- **New residents**
  - [Moving to Strathcona County](#): Information for new residents.
  - [Newcomers](#): Settlement services in the library to help with referrals and community information.
- **Volunteering and community building**
  - [Volunteer with the County](#)
  - [Information and Volunteer Centre](#)
  - [Block parties](#)

## Youth Services

- **Big Brothers/ Sisters Strathcona** provides a variety of program for youth.
  - [Before and after school programs](#), [Summer Camps](#), [Youth Programs](#), [Sports Programs](#), [Girls Night](#), and [MasterChef](#)
- **Strathcona County Youth Council** is recruiting! Be the Difference. Be a Leader. Be Heard. Join the Strathcona Youth Council! We are looking for new members in grade 7-12.
  - [Asset Development](#): Strength based approach to developing healthy youth.
  - [Counselling](#): Individual, couple and family counselling.
  - [Groups](#): Peer support and/or facilitator led.
  - [KEYS Program](#): Keys to Empowering Youth to Succeed for junior high/middle school students, parents, school staff members, and the community.
  - [Leaders in Training](#): Help with Recreation, Parks and Culture summer programs.
  - Homework Help - How to find help at the library for homework - [For Kids | For Teens](#)
  - [Youth Council](#): A volunteering opportunity for youth grade 7-12 to join in, help out and be heard.
  - [Youth Directory](#): A guide to local resources for youth.
  - [Youth Mentoring](#): Youth are matched with Strathcona County mentors in departments that best for their future career goals.
  - [Youth Outreach](#): Provides youth with advocacy, support and connections to community resources.

## Learning English

For students in kindergarten up to grade 6

<p><a href="http://www.uniteforliteracy.com">http://www.uniteforliteracy.com</a> Dual Language book collection written in English and the audio is in English and 40 other languages.</p>	
<p><a href="https://globalstorybooks.net/">https://globalstorybooks.net/</a> Dual language book collection written in English and 18 other languages.</p>	
<p><a href="https://www.duolingo.com/">https://www.duolingo.com/</a> This online English program is designed to help children learn a second language. The program can be accessed through the website or on an app.</p>	
<p><a href="http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en">http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en</a> Website to help kids build English language skills through games, songs, stories, and activities.</p>	

For students in grade 7 up to 12

<p><a href="http://www.learningchocolate.com/">http://www.learningchocolate.com/</a> This interactive website has a wide range of interactives that students can use to practice their English language skills.</p>	
<p><a href="http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/">http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/</a> Website to help teens improve their English with reading, writing and listening practice, tips for exams, grammar and vocabulary exercises, games and videos.</p>	
<p><a href="https://www.lingohut.com/en/esl/">https://www.lingohut.com/en/esl/</a> This website has over 100+ lessons to help you learn to communicate in English. Every lesson includes a variety of games, pronunciation tools, flash cards, and listening activities. Lessons are available to take any time of day online.</p>	
<p><a href="https://www.englishgrammar101.com/">https://www.englishgrammar101.com/</a> This site is focused on English language and improve writing with online grammar lessons. Select from any of the modules to start an engaging and easy-to-follow exercise.</p>	