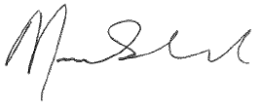




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	April 15, 2026
SUBJECT:	Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council Annual Event
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Norm Schleeahn Director, Economic Development Planning and Economic Development
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to advise Council of the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council's upcoming annual event that aims to celebrate the work and achievements since the implementation of the [2025-2028 Community Plan](#).

The Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council is a community table that seeks to create a seamless settlement experience for newcomers in Hamilton. With partners from various sectors – including settlement, education, business, health, social services, municipal affairs, and persons with lived immigration experience — we work together make Hamilton a welcoming community where newcomers have a positive settlement experience and feel a sense of belonging.

This annual event will feature a live performance by Keith Silver, singer-songwriter from the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, as well as a presentation of our work over the last year. The plenary session on immigration and settlement will be moderated by Terri Bedminster, Executive Director of Refuge: Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health, and will feature a panel of speakers:

- Amanda Sim — Assistant Professor at McMaster's Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurosciences Department, whose recent research has focused on refugee children and families' health and mental health as well as youth experiences of discrimination in Hamilton;
- Jemimah Amos — Senior Advisor, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at Good Shepherd, whose recently published PhD dissertation focuses on African newcomer women's labour market barriers;
- Luc Bonaventure Amoussou — Executive Director of Immigrants Working Centre, one of the largest settlement service agencies in Hamilton; and,
- Mary Crea-Aresenio — Assistant Professor at McMaster's Global Health/Department of Medicine, whose research focuses on immigration policy and employment as a social determinant of health as well as co-editor of a newly published book: "A research agenda for immigration settlement and adjustment."

Event Details

Date: Tuesday April 21, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Floor 2 – David Braley Health Sciences Centre, 100 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON, L8P 1H6

This event is free and open to all, and breakfast will be provided. All interested attendees must register through Eventbrite.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hipc-annual-event-tickets-1985157755285?aff=oddtcreator>

For further information on this matter, please contact Mohammad Araf, Senior Project Manager, Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council, Planning and Economic Development, Economic Development, at (905) 546-2424 ext. 4359 or by email at Mohammad.Araf@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A: Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council Annual Event Poster

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.