



# City of Peterborough

## Media Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 20, 2010  
Peterborough, ON --

### **Welcome Peterborough Immigrant Portal**

Prospective immigrants can now find out about Peterborough before leaving their country of origin.

The City of Peterborough will officially launch the Welcome Peterborough Portal on Thursday April 22, 2010. The portal, which focuses on the interests, needs and priorities of new immigrants and recent newcomers, offers new and future immigrants information on the benefits of settling in Peterborough.

"This is an exciting step for Peterborough and for Ontario," said Dr. Eric Hoskins, Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. "The website will help the region open its doors to valuable newcomer talent and investment. It's an important move towards creating an Open Ontario so business and job opportunities can grow."

"This support by the Ontario Government allows Peterborough to showcase itself as a great place to live, work and invest. The web portal will help attract immigrants who want to make Peterborough their home by providing information about our local businesses, education centres and living areas," said Jeff Leal, MPP for Peterborough.

The web site, which can be found at [www.welcomepeterborough.ca](http://www.welcomepeterborough.ca), provides readily accessible information for newcomers who want to find out about our services, our history and our community. Immigrants have always played an important role in helping to build our city and develop our regional economy. Successive waves of immigrants arrived in Peterborough, bringing with them their skills, innovation, entrepreneurial spirit and creativity. Where early settlers established local grist and saw mills, today's new Canadians will help to develop our economy on a global scale. New Canadians also bring their traditions and culture and help turn our community into a vibrant, diverse and multicultural city.

In 2008 the community got together to help create the Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration. The Council goal is to develop a community strategy to help immigrants successfully settle into the area. This website is one of the first projects of the Council. It has been created with the help of recent immigrants, immigrant service providers, service agencies, the local government and local employers.

The portal, funded by the Ontario and federal governments, was developed by the City of Peterborough in partnership with the Community Opportunity and Innovation Network. This funding is part of the Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement to support municipalities in attracting newcomers and helping them settle in their communities.

This information is also available on our City of Peterborough website at [www.peterborough.ca](http://www.peterborough.ca).

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