



CAPE BRETON LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

A collaborative community initiative made up of local organizations, community groups, and individual community members dedicated to fostering welcoming and inclusive communities for newcomers to Canada living in Unama'ki - Cape Breton.

capebretonpartnership.com/cblip
www.welcometocapebreton.ca



Land Acknowledgement

The work of the Cape Breton Local Immigration Partnership takes place in Unama'ki, the unceded, traditional territory of the Mi'kmaw people. We are grateful for the Peace and Friendship Treaties.

We Are All Treaty People.

As we support the settlement of newcomers to this land, we honour and respect those who have welcomed and taught settlers in Unama'ki for generations.

We understand our responsibility to educate ourselves and our members. As we listen and learn more, we are committed to advancing our journey toward Truth and Reconciliation and building meaningful relationships with Mi'kmaw people and organizations.



Overview



WHO WE ARE: The CBLIP is a partnership between organizations and individuals who are dedicated to fostering welcoming and inclusive communities in Unama'ki – Cape Breton. Our organizational members include municipalities, settlement agencies, businesses, police services, post-secondary institutions, community service providers, and more. Many individuals are also involved in the CBLIP through its working groups and as part of the Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee and [Immigrant Advisory Table](#).

We are working together to support communities where all newcomers can settle, stay, and thrive. We believe that [Belonging is for Everyone](#).

MISSION

The CBLIP identifies needs and opportunities for newcomer settlement in Unama'ki - Cape Breton and supports community partners in fostering inclusive and welcoming communities

VISION

All newcomers feel welcome, safe, supported, and at home in Unama'ki - Cape Breton.

OUR SHARED COMMITMENTS



Unsettling Settlement: In all we do, we recognize that the Mi'kmaq are the original and rightful welcomeers of this Land.

Newcomer Voices: The lived experiences of newcomers to Canada are centered in our shared work.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility: We work to apply intersectional lenses, deepen respectful relationships, and intentionally reflect diverse perspectives.

Continuous Learning: We evaluate our collaborative work through an approach that is reflective, curious, relational, celebrating, responsive, and intentional.

The spirit of these commitments weaves through all CBLIP strategies and activities.



Our Theory of Change







***Thrive** – Newcomers feel a strong sense of belonging, can access employment and education opportunities, and participate actively in their communities, contributing to community growth and vibrancy.

Key Activities






From April 2025 to March 2026, these activities and others will help to move our theory of change into action. These are umbrella activities that stretch across the CBLIP and are designed to take place in close alignment with the activities of the CBLIP Working Groups, Immigrant Advisory Table, and Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee.

	Activity Area	2025-2026 Sample Activities
 1	Unsettling Settlement	<p>Host a series of conversations with the CBLIP Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee (MAC) to explore present and future collaborations in welcoming newcomers.</p> <p>Host one day Mi'kmaw 101 training for CBLIP members to help increase their knowledge and understanding</p> <p>Assist in the development of resources and opportunities to educate newcomers about Mi'kmaw culture</p>
 2	Newcomer Voices	<p>Work closely with the IAT to identify and pursue opportunities to share newcomer perspectives with local organizations</p> <p>Support meaningful IAT member involvement across CBLIP working groups and sub-committees</p> <p>Ensure that newcomer voices inform all CBLIP activities</p>
 3	Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Accessibility	<p>Support the Cape Breton Partnership in the development of an Anti-Racism Action Plan</p> <p>Ensure that all CBLIP staff members complete training in GBA Plus</p> <p>Share and support training to enhance CBLIP member capacity and knowledge on gender-based analysis</p>
 4	Continuous Learning	<p>Develop the CBLIP evaluation pathway tool and present it to CBLIP members as a resource</p> <p>Support working groups in the ongoing monitoring of their action plans, providing tools and techniques to support evaluative mindsets</p> <p>Conduct annual survey of CBLIP partners</p>

Activity Area

2025-2026 Sample Activities

 <p>Fostering a Collaborative Mindset</p>	<p>4 Partner Engagement</p> <p>5 Community Planning</p> <p>6 Coordination</p>	<p>Hold annual partner update event</p> <p>Develop strategy for making connections and offering support to non-settlement organizations who are often first points of contact for newcomers</p> <p>Consult with francophone partners about local francophone immigration and settlement priorities</p> <p>Support the administration of the CBLIP working groups, IAT, and MAC and assist in the development and implementation of their annual action plans</p> <p>Pursue activities to enhance understanding of newcomer needs and community assets and gaps. Use new understandings to inform current and future action plans.</p> <p>Share relevant programs, events, and training opportunities for newcomers through the CBLIP network.</p> <p>Review and update CBLIP core documents and ensure alignment (e.g. Terms of Reference, community map diagram, website, postcard, etc.)</p> <p>Host quarterly, hybrid CBLIP Council meetings in rotating locations around the Island.</p>
	<p>7 Building Member Knowledge</p>	<p>Review training priorities for CBLIP members and coordinate training activities</p> <p>Maintain and expand communication and resource-sharing among CBLIP members on Basecamp</p> <p>Conduct biennial immigrant survey and prepare and share summary reports</p> <p>Gather and share data and stories to build understanding of community contexts</p>
	<p>8 Raising Public Awareness</p>	<p>Support activities (e.g. storytelling events, social media campaigns, resource development) to raise public awareness of the needs of newcomers and the benefits of immigration</p> <p>Raise awareness on the topic of welcoming workplaces for newcomers</p> <p>Refresh and promote the Belonging is for Everyone campaign</p>

Outcomes



The activities of the CBLIP are designed to create change.

Below are high-level changes we are aspiring to through our collaborative work.

More Welcoming and Inclusive

Communities: Communities in Unama'ki - Cape Breton have better access to the resources and connections needed to support newcomer success and long-term retention.

Increased Member Knowledge and

Awareness: CBLIP members have increased and more nuanced understanding of newcomer experiences and the gaps and opportunities in local services.

Stronger Collaboration and Coordination:

Collaboration among community partners is strengthened, leading to better coordinated planning and service delivery.

More Evidence-Based Planning:

CBLIP members use shared data, evidence, and communication tools to guide decisions and track progress.

Greater Public Awareness and

Community Support: Community support increases through broader public understanding of newcomers' contributions and the benefits of immigration.

More Employer Engagement and More Welcoming Workplaces:

The CBLIP connects with more employers, with tools and resources offered to support and celebrate the meaningful inclusion of newcomers in workplaces.

Deepened Commitment to Truth and

Reconciliation: Mi'kmaw voices and leadership are centered in the CBLIP and support strengthened newcomer-Mi'kmaw relationship building.

More Embedded Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Principles:

Equity and anti-racism principles are fully integrated across CBLIP's work, ensuring inclusive and fair outcomes for all.



More Information

To learn more about the Cape Breton Local Immigration Partnership, we welcome you to visit www.capebretonpartnership.com/cblip or to contact Kailea Pedley, CBLIP Program Manager, at kailea@capebretonpartnership.com.

www.capebretonpartnership.com
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