

CAPE BRETON LOCAL  
IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

# year <sup>in</sup> review

2024 – 2025



Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada



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.

## About the CBLIP

The Cape Breton Local Immigration Partnership (CBLIP) is a partnership between organizations and individuals who are dedicated to fostering welcoming and inclusive communities in Unama'ki – Cape Breton. The CBLIP is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and is administered by the Cape Breton Partnership, the Island's private sector-led economic development organization.

Organizational members of the CBLIP 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 Immigrant Advisory Table. Together, we are working 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 centred 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.



# Who We Are

**The CBLIP is a collaborative community initiative. In 2024-2025 there were 65 individuals actively involved in the CBLIP across all of its groups, with representation from more than 25 member organizations across the Island. CBLIP members are engaged in the CBLIP through their involvement in one or more of our collaborative groups:**

**Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee (MAC) & Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations Working Group:** Formed in 2024, the MAC is made up of one representative from each of the five Mi'kmaw communities in Unama'ki and provides guidance to the CBLIP on the building of better relationships between Mi'kmaw people and newcomers. A working group of other CBLIP members is working closely with the MAC, with facilitation support from Jody Nelson (Misewa Collaborators) and the guidance of Robert Bernard (Indigenous Guide).

**Immigrant Advisory Table (IAT):** IAT members are people who were born outside of Canada, live on the Island, and work together to ensure that newcomer perspectives always inform the decisions and work of the CBLIP.

**CBLIP Council:** The Council is the main leadership body of the CBLIP, responsible for strategic direction and information sharing between member organizations. The Council meets quarterly and has one representative appointed per member organization.

**Working Groups:** Members come together in CBLIP Working Groups to develop and implement annual action plans on themes of central importance to newcomer settlement.

**Sub-Committees:** CBLIP sub-committees are short-term groups that form for defined periods of time to help coordinate very specific projects or events, often acting as advisors to CBLIP staff (e.g. Immigrant Survey Sub-Committee, Partner Update Event Planning Sub-Committee).

**CBLIP members are supported by staff members, employed by the Cape Breton Partnership, who serve administrative roles. The CBLIP currently has two staff members: Kailea Pedley (Program Manager) and Tara Paon (Program Coordinator). In 2025, the staff team expanded during the summer months to include Naomi Yonder (Project Assistant).**



Kailea Pedley



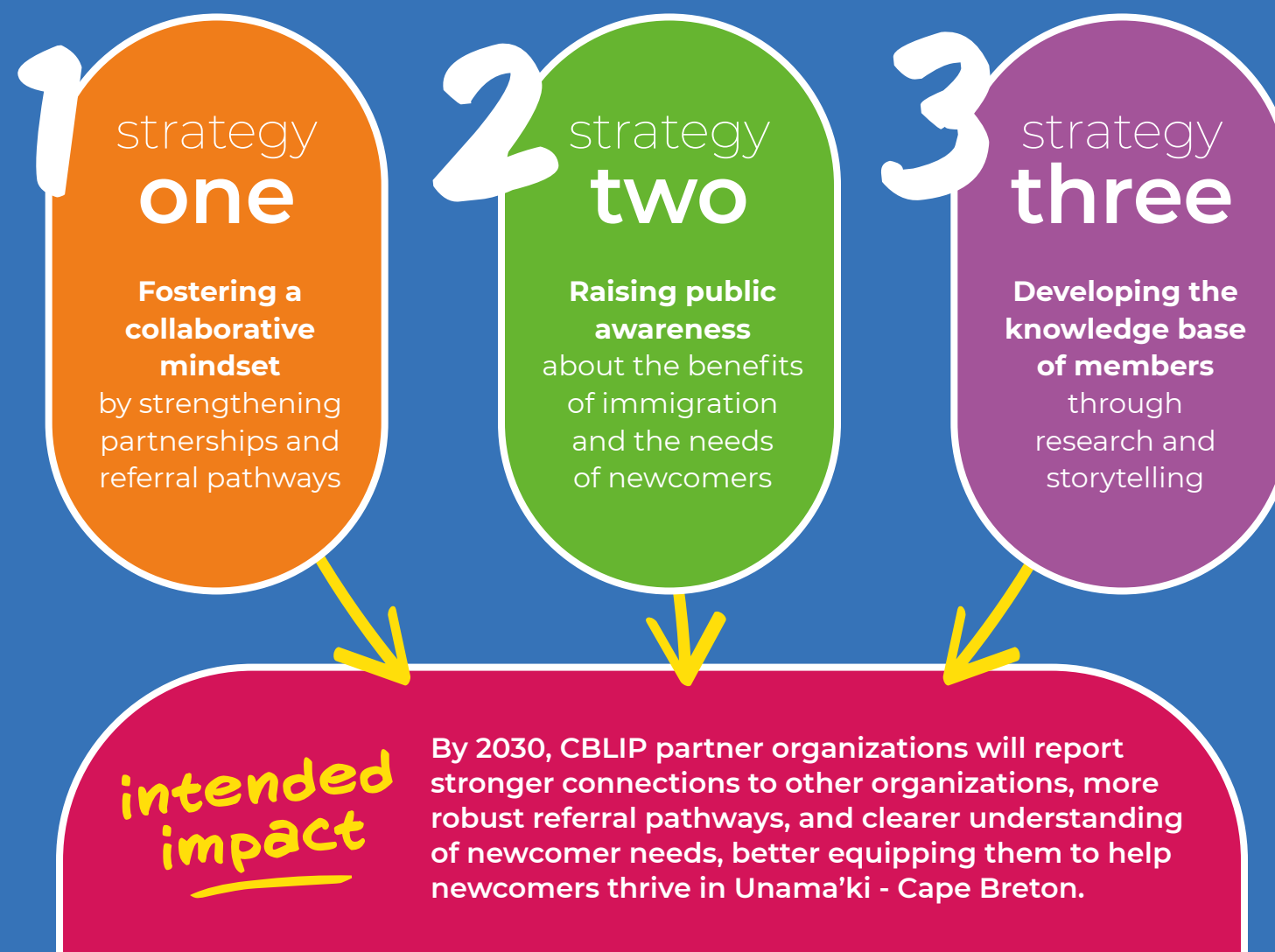
Tara Paon

# Our Theory of Change

With the CBLIP Strategic Plan (2022-2025) coming to the end of its term, the development of a new guiding document was necessary to ensure strategic clarity for the CBLIP in the coming years. To this end, CBLIP members embarked on a process in 2024-2025 to develop a new theory of change. With funding support from Innoweave, the CBLIP had the opportunity to work with Brittney Patton (Laridae Consulting) to develop a theory of change in close consultation with CBLIP members and with the guidance of an advisory team drawn from the CBLIP Council, Immigrant Advisory Table, and staff.

The new CBLIP Theory of Change - and accompanying action plans - provide a roadmap for the CBLIP for the next five years, grounded in community input and thoughtful conversations among members.

## CBLIP Theory of Change 2025-2030



# Building Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations

The Mi'kmaw people are the original and rightful welcome to this Land and it is important that Mi'kmaw leadership is embedded in the work of the CBLIP. Until 2024, little progress had been made in building strong relationships. Recognizing that more and deeper work was needed to further the stated commitment of the CBLIP to Truth and Reconciliation, a plan was developed and funding support was secured from the Nova Scotia Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration for 2024-2026, focused on strengthening relationships between Mi'kmaw people and newcomers in Unama'ki. With the guidance of Robert Bernard (The Indigenous Guide) one person from each Mi'kmaw community on the Island was invited to participate in a new CBLIP Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee (MAC) and to work alongside a new Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations Working Group.

## Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee (MAC)

**Anita Basque** (Potlotek)

**Mary Louise Bernard** (Wagmatcook)

**Graham Marshall** (Membertou)

**Dolena Poulette** (We'koqma'q)

**Josh Stevens** (Eskasoni)

## CBLIP Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations Working Group

**Leslie Fu**

**Jody Nelson** (Chair)

**Des Ong**

**Robyn Lee Seale**

**Rebecca MacDonald**

The initial goal of the group was to 'sit around the fire together' in order to create working relationships across the team, and begin to take steps towards creating a stronger sense of connection between newcomers and First Peoples. Long term, the goal is to develop strategies to centre Mi'kmaq in the immigration system in order to interrupt colonial mindsets and harms. This initiative is an opportunity to take a critical look at the Treaties of Peace and Friendship as they relate to newcomers to this Land.

## In its first year of activity, several activities helped to take positive steps toward these goals, including:

The CBLIP's annual partner update event in 2024 was held in Eskasoni and, for the first time, included the attendance and active participation of the members of the newly-formed MAC

Several virtual and in-person gatherings were held with the MAC and Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations Working Group to connect, review, and plan together, with several short- and long-term project ideas identified

An in-person gathering of the MAC and IAT was held in Wagmatcook to build further connection and understanding

A Mi'kmaw 101 session was held in Wagmatcook to help educate CBLIP members about Mi'kmaw history and culture

Attendance at the We'koqma'q Mawio'mi and Eskasoni Mawio'mi was facilitated for Immigrant Advisory Table (IAT) members and their families

The welcometocapebreton.ca website was reviewed by MAC members, with feedback on better representing the Mi'kmaw as the original welcome to the Cape Breton Partnership's communications team

A collaborative workshop was developed for presentation at the national Pathways to Prosperity Conference for LIPs and RIF, held in Halifax in November 2025





# CBLIP Council

The Council is the main leadership body of the CBLIP, responsible for strategic direction and information sharing between member organizations. The Council meets quarterly and has one representative appointed per member organization. Established in 2017, the year the CBLIP first formed, the Council meets quarterly in rotating locations around the Island, and always with a virtual meeting option. In 2025, a French-English translation tool was added to Council meetings to support better inclusion and relationship building between francophone and anglophone service providers. As of October 31, 2025, the CBLIP Council includes 27 members.

## Voting Members

### Co-Chair: Trina Hall, YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth

### Co-Chair: Nadine Paruch, Cape Breton Island Centre for Immigration

Denise Bantegeyeko, Immigration Francophone Nouvelle-Écosse (IFNÉ)

Emily Chasse, Cape Breton Regional Library

Shenny Daskeo, Filipino Association of Cape Breton

Darren Desmond, NSCC Sydney Waterfront Campus

Tanya Felix, Strait Area Chamber of Commerce

Erin Gallagher Lynk, United Way Cape Breton

Susan Kelley, Cape Breton Victoria Regional Centre for Education

Theresa Laaroussi, NSCC Strait Area Campus

Lindsay MacDonald, Strait Regional Centre for Education

Perla MacLeod, Victoria County

Estrella Melong, Strait Area Filipino Society

Peter Oyedijo, Association of Nigerians in Nova Scotia (ANNS), Sydney

Megan Penney, Cape Breton Regional Chamber of Commerce

Claude Poirier, Inverness County

Will Roy, Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Heather Somerton, YMCA of Cape Breton

Amel Soud, Conseil de Développement Économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse (CDÉNÉ)

Amanda Rae Storteboom, Amanda Rae Catalyst & Consulting

Sheri Taylor, Leaside Society

Victor Tomiczek, Cape Breton University

Robert Walsh, Cape Breton Regional Police Service

## Non-Voting Members

Emily Gill, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Kris Kolanko, Nova Scotia Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration

Tyler Mattheis, Cape Breton Partnership

Lauri Ravanello, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)

# CBLIP Immigrant Advisory Table

The CBLIP includes an Immigrant Advisory Table (IAT) to ensure that newcomer perspectives always inform the decisions and work of the CBLIP Council and its working groups and sub-committees. IAT members are people who were born outside of Canada, live in Unama'ki - Cape Breton, and bring living experience to their roles as IAT members.

### The primary objectives of the IAT are to:

Provide input in the development of CBLIP strategies, action plans, and projects;

Increase public awareness of multiculturalism and support broader engagement in multicultural activities in Unama'ki - Cape Breton;

Act as cultural ambassadors to the CBLIP;

Help to improve connections between newcomers and available services;

Represent the vision of the CBLIP.

### Highlights of 2024-2025 include:

The development of a new IAT Alumni Group, a new way to engage former IAT members and stay connected

Attending Mawio'mi in We'koqma'q and Eskasoni, and connecting with the new CBLIP Mi'kmaw Advisory Committee

An IAT social gathering in Baddeck that offered members and their families an opportunity to connect with each other outside of their regular meetings, strengthen relationships, and expand their newcomer network

Sharing resources and coordinating workshops on local weather and emergency preparedness both virtually and in person for newcomers, in collaboration with Bruce MacDonald (Emergency Management, CBRM)

Supporting CBLIP working groups and sub-committees on a wide range of projects and initiatives, like the first annual Welcoming Spirit Awards, and the Mi'kmaw - Newcomer Relations Working Group.

As of October 31, 2025, there are 13 members of the IAT.

#### Co-Chairs:

**Darlin Garland** (Germany | Victoria County)

**Des Ong** (Philippines | CBRM)

#### Current Members:

**Katrin Lucks-Stolley** (Germany | Richmond County)

**Leslie Fu** (China | CBRM)

**Lisa Huang** (Brazil | CBRM)

**Mukthar Limpao** (Philippines | Inverness County)

**Elie Youssef** (Lebanon | Port Hawkesbury)

**Mahesh Prabhu** (India | CBRM)

**Nga Ginny Nguyen** (Vietnam | CBRM)

**Rickey Lanting** (Philippines | Port Hawkesbury)

**Shampa Mandal** (India | Victoria County)

**Tomas Gonzalez** (Venezuela | CBRM)

**Kimani Peter Mwangi** (Kenya | Inverness County)

#### With thanks to outgoing members in 2024-2025:

**Lan Zheng** (China | CBRM)

**Olena Stutzinger** (Ukraine | Richmond County)

**Hisham Sleem** (Egypt | CBRM)

**Babafemi Odumosu** (Nigeria | CBRM)

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the IAT is welcome to submit an application at [capebretonpartnership.com/cblip](https://capebretonpartnership.com/cblip)



## CBLIP Working Groups

Working groups are action-oriented teams within the CBLIP. These collaborative tables are made up of individuals - some organizational representatives and some community volunteers - who roll up their sleeves to design and implement projects together.

Working groups help move the CBLIP from strategy to action. The 2024-2025 year saw the wrap-up of the Demonstrating Impact Working Group, the launch of two new groups: Mi'kmaw-Newcomer Relations (described above) and Building Partnerships, and the continuation of four others: Community Belonging, Awareness, Housing, and Employment.

Interested in getting involved in a Working Group? Visit [capebretonpartnership.com/cblip](https://capebretonpartnership.com/cblip) to find out how!

Each CBLIP Working Group had its own highlights and successes in 2024-2025, thanks to the time and commitment of its members and the guidance and support of the chair (or co-chairs) of the group.



#### Demonstrating Impact

The 2024-2025 year marked the wrap-up of the CBLIP Demonstrating Impact Working Group. Since its launch in 2022, this group helped to guide the CBLIP toward a more evaluative, impact-oriented way of working. Through workshops, mentorship, and tool development, working group members equipped the CBLIP to move into new planning cycles with greater clarity of purpose. The final tool developed by the working group was an evaluation pathway graphic designed to help guide members through the annual cycle of planning, action, reflection, and course correction. Many thanks to all members who contributed to the Demonstrating Impact Working Group through its term: Jody Nelson (Misewa Collaborators), Robyn Lee Seale (NS Lands), Nicole Bisson, Simon Barrick (CBU), Femi Odumosu (IAT), Stephen Geach (IAT) and Amanda Rae Storteboom (Working Group Chair).





## Building Partnerships

**Chair:** Simon Barrick (Cape Breton University)

**Current Members:** Tracey Wilson (Cape Breton Regional Library), Mahesh Prabhu (IAT), Leslie Fu (IAT), Ingrid Moukan Keumani (Conseil de Développement Économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse), Cristin Fu (Volunteer Newcomer), David Wagg (Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia)

Established in June 2025, the Building Partnerships Working Group is the newest Working Group in the CBLIP family. The group emerged from work that began and grew through the leadership of the CBLIP Community Belonging Working Group, and particularly thanks to the efforts of Simon Barrick and Tracy Wilson. The group is focused on building collaborations with relevant organizations to strengthen support for newcomers on the Island. Having held its first two meetings, the group is positioning itself well for long-term impact.



**2024  
Welcoming  
Spirit Awards  
Individual  
Recipient:  
Rickey Lanting**

L-to-R: Ocean Le (Cape Breton Connector Program Coordinator and Co-Chair of the CBLIP Community Belonging Working Group), Tara Paon (CBLIP Program Coordinator), Rickey Lanting (Award Recipient), Rosamae Wareham (Nominator), and Trina Hall (YREACH).

**2024  
Welcoming  
Spirit Awards  
Organization  
Recipient:  
L'Arche  
Cape Breton**



L-to-R: Ocean Le (Cape Breton Connector Program Coordinator and Co-Chair of the CBLIP Community Belonging Working Group), Kimani Mwangi (Nominator), Jonathan MacEachern and Hyunjoo Kim (L'Arche Cape Breton, Award Recipient), and Tara Paon (CBLIP Program Coordinator).

## Community Belonging

**Co-Chairs:** Erin Gallagher-Link (United Way Cape Breton) and Ocean Le (Inverness County)

**Current Members:** Kat Lucks-Stolley (IAT), Peter Oyedijo (Association of Nigerians in Nova Scotia), Sumayya Mullassery (Connector Program), William Roy (Cape Breton Regional Municipality), Tracey Wilson (Cape Breton Regional Library).

**With thanks to outgoing members in 2024-2025:** Simon Barrick (Cape Breton University), Lynn Carter (Inverness County), Liaquat Shaikh (Nova Scotia Health)

**The CBLIP Community Belonging Working Group is committed to building and enhancing the communication, relationships, and resources needed to foster more welcoming and inclusive communities for newcomers in Unama'ki - Cape Breton. Project highlights of the group in 2024-2025 include:**

- Launching the first annual Welcoming Spirit Awards at the 2024 CBLIP Partner Update Event in Eskasoni, celebrating individuals and organizations helping newcomers to feel at home on the Island. The first recipients of these awards were Rickey Lanting (individual award recipient) and L'Arche Cape Breton (organizational award recipient).
- Developing a "Got Citizenship? Go Vote!" campaign to encourage new citizens to exercise their right to vote and provide useful voting information for new Canadians.
- Supporting strong connection-building between group members, sharing updates, and promoting one another's initiatives

## Awareness

**Chair:** Nadine Paruch  
(Cape Breton Island Centre for Immigration)

**Current Members:** Lisa Huang (IAT), Robert Walsh (Cape Breton Regional Police Service), Soniari Opusunju (Cape Breton Island Centre for Immigration), Michaela Grosche (Newcomer Volunteer), Shruti Shukla (Newcomer Volunteer), Diana Clemente (Sydney Call Centre), David Wagg (Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia)

**With thanks to outgoing members in 2024-2025:** Joe Carew (Municipality of Inverness County)

**The CBLIP Awareness Working Group raises public awareness of the benefits of immigration and the needs of newcomers in Unama'ki - Cape Breton. Project highlights of the group in 2024-2025 include:**

- Overseeing updates to the multicultural calendar at [welcometocapebreton.ca](http://welcometocapebreton.ca)
- Collaborating with CBC Cape Breton to coordinate an annual series of radio interviews with newcomers living around the Island, sharing their stories and experiences of settling in
- Launching a photo storytelling project called In Focus: Newcomer Experiences in Unama'ki - Cape Breton, which invited those with lived experience of immigration to share photos that represented their journey of settling in and included a series of events to showcase the photographs and the stories of the people behind them.



July 28, 2025 – St. Peter's, Richmond County: During Nicolas Denys Days, Gaurav Bimali (right) connected with community members at the annual Poker Walk, sparking meaningful moments of dialogue and cultural exchanges. Gaurav shared, "For me today's volunteering at a newcomers' experience-sharing event, showcasing stories through captured photos was a great spot where I got to know locals and more about the community in depth with one and one communication...The event, part of the Nicolas Denys Days [St. Peter's] community celebration drew a solid crowd of 80 locals, allowing me to share my Cape Breton experiences."



August 28, 2025 – Baddeck, Victoria County: Lydia Lil joined community members at the Baddeck Library for a collaborative event featuring a public screening of You Are Here by Sari Sari, alongside the In Focus exhibit that highlights newcomer experiences in Unama'ki - Cape Breton, creating space for reflection, sharing, and conversation.



## Employment

**Chair:** Dani Mombourquette  
(Cape Breton Partnership)

**Current Members:** Tanya Felix (Strait Area Chamber of Commerce), Kris Kolanko (Nova Scotia Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration), Kim Long (Nova Scotia Community College), Neelima Singh (Cape Breton University), Lijia (Cara) Jiang (NS Works - YMCA of Cape Breton), Jamie Taylor (Sampson McPhee), Sumayya Mullassery (Cape Breton Partnership), Cristin Fu (Newcomer Volunteer), Cliff MacDonald (Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia), David Wagg (Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia)

**With thanks to outgoing members in 2024-2025:**  
Valerie Dolhanty (NS Works - YMCA of Cape Breton)



Rimeks Bags & Brands Inc. (Sydney, Cape Breton Regional Municipality), featuring Rita Umoren, Chen Lu, and Mahima Anitha Rajanbabu



Nova Scotia Community College Strait Area Campus (Town of Port Hawkesbury), featuring John Suresh Selvaraj and Rajasekar Devadoss

**The CBLIP Employment Working Group supports collaborative efforts to foster meaningful employment opportunities and inclusive workplaces for newcomers. Project highlights of the group in 2024-2025 include:**

- The group shared a resource sheet of common myths about immigration, highlighting common misconceptions about immigration that are heard locally and providing correct information
- The Working Group Chair set up a booth at the Safety First Symposium in May 2025, leading to good conversation and follow up about immigrant employment
- Group members had active conversations and engaged the Immigrant Advisory Table in imagining a social media campaign promoting the positive impact of newcomers on workplaces on the Island
- The group informed and promoted a new series of videos and accompanying resources on the theme of welcoming workplaces, developed with the support of Rogers TV and showcasing the stories of five local employers and newcomer employees. These can be found by visiting: [welcometocapebreton.ca/belonging](https://welcometocapebreton.ca/belonging).



Strait Richmond Hospital (Evanston, Richmond County), featuring Hope David-Boudreau and Rani Jino

## Housing

**Chair:** Rebecca MacDonald  
(Cape Breton Island Centre for Immigration)

**Current Members:** Tanya Felix (Strait Area Chamber of Commerce), Kelly MacKinnon (Cape Breton Partnership), Morgan Murray (Inverness County), Cecil T Smith (Housing Nova Scotia), Travis GS. Radtke (Cape Breton Regional Municipality), Jamie Morrison (Nova Scotia Legal Aid), Sumayya Mullassery (Cape Breton Partnership), Calmero Edwards (Newcomer Volunteer)

**With thanks to outgoing members in 2024-2025:**  
Lan Zheng (Cape Breton Partnership), Victor Tomiczek (Cape Breton University), Mike Targett (Cape Breton Regional Municipality)

**The CBLIP Housing Working Group contributes to research, resource development, and information sharing regarding the housing needs of newcomers. Project highlights of the group in 2024-2025 include:**

- Hosting a virtual Tenants Rights workshop with Jamie Morrison from Nova Scotia Legal Aid, providing accurate information to both renters and people who support them.
- Gathering data on newcomer housing on the Island to support a future snapshot report release.
- Providing a space for members who work in the field of housing on the Island to connect, share information, and consider a newcomer lens more specifically.

# Research

The CBLIP adds value for its members by gathering data and undertaking research initiatives to better understand the local immigration context and to better inform member programming.

The CBLIP Program Manager is in the second year of a two-year term as Co-Chair of the National LIP Data Working Group. The group works to develop and build a community of practice that facilitates research and data analysis expertise of LIPs, including research-oriented collaborations and innovative approaches, supporting access to data, and disseminating best practices and resources. Participating in the National LIP Data Working Group continues to bring considerable value back to our local LIP.

Every second year, the CBLIP runs a survey of people who were born outside of Canada and now live in Unama'ki - Cape Breton. The Immigrant Survey asks a variety of questions about their experiences of coming to the Island and settling in here - what supports have helped, what has been challenging, their likelihood of staying, etc. The data gathered helps to inform where the CBLIP should focus its collective efforts for greatest impact and helps individual CBLIP members to design better programs and initiatives to support newcomers.

The most recent Immigrant Survey was conducted in 2023. To learn more and read the reports, visit [welcometocapebreton.ca/immigrant-survey](https://welcometocapebreton.ca/immigrant-survey). The next survey will launch in early 2026.

# WelcomeToCapeBreton.ca

The CBLIP is a proud supporter and contributor to the Cape Breton Partnership's website: [welcometocapebreton.ca](http://welcometocapebreton.ca). This website is designed as a one-stop-shop for people curious about living in Unama'ki - Cape Breton, or who have recently arrived. Visitors to the website will find several tools and resources developed by the CBLIP to support both newcomers and newcomer-serving organizations.

In 2024-2025, the CBLIP put energy into promoting and updating several sections of the website, including:

- **Newcomer Service Map:** an interactive map of local services that newcomers may need in their first days in Unama'ki - Cape Breton
- **Multicultural Calendar:** an annual calendar of holidays and observances celebrated by people of diverse cultural backgrounds living on the Island
- **Belonging is for Everyone Campaign:** an ongoing public awareness campaign sharing stories of newcomers and those who advocate for the importance of immigration to Unama'ki - Cape Breton

# Regional, National, and International Collaboration

CBLIP staff bring perspectives from Unama'ki - Cape Breton to regional and national discussions and gathers relevant insights to bring back to the Island through participation in:

## Atlantic LIP Network

A network of LIP staff across the Atlantic region who come together to share ideas and resources, troubleshoot challenges, and offer peer mentorship support.

## ARAISA Reconciliation Discussion Group

A group of settlement sector staff across the region who are interested in learning and taking action to further Truth and Reconciliation in the Atlantic Region.

## National LIP Secretariat Executive Committee

The National LIP Secretariat (NLS) is a coordinating body for LIPs across Canada. The CBLIP Program Manager is a long-standing member of its Executive Committee, which provides strategic and operational guidance to the NLS to safeguard its vision, mission, and core values.

## National LIP Data Working Group

As described above, the Data Working Group supports LIPs across Canada with collaborative projects focused on research and data.

## Pathways to Prosperity Standing Committee on Immigration to Northern, Rural, and Remote Communities

The CBLIP Program Manager sits on this national standing committee that furthers conversations on immigration in northern, rural, and remote communities. The standing committee coordinates research projects, workshops, and information sharing related to this theme.

## Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) Conference Planning Committee for LIP/RIF Conference

The CBLIP Program Manager is supporting P2P in the planning of this annual, national gathering for Local Immigration Partnerships and Réseaux en Immigration Francophone (RIF). The 2025 gathering took place in Kijipuktuk (Halifax) on November 26, 2025.

In 2024, the CBLIP also broadened its network-building internationally through the Global Peer Connection (GPC) Program, facilitated by Welcoming International. The GPC Program facilitates connections between individuals, pairing them with peers who support welcoming communities in a different part of the world. The CBLIP Program Manager, Kailea Pedley, has been paired with Guillaume Willemse, who works with Gore District Council in the southernmost part of New Zealand. Kailea and Guillaume now connect regularly to share learning and connection across borders.





To learn more about the Cape Breton Local Immigration Partnership and to explore how you or your organization can be involved, we welcome you to visit [capebretonpartnership.com/cblip](https://capebretonpartnership.com/cblip) or to contact Kailea Pedley, CBLIP Program Manager, at [kailea@capebretonpartnership.com](mailto:kailea@capebretonpartnership.com).

To learn more about the work of our LIP colleagues across Canada, visit [thelipsecretariat.ca](https://thelipsecretariat.ca).