PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS

Fall 2026



Navigator News.

PEI Community Navigators Quarterly Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM MAXINE RENNIE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The PEI Community Navigators have had a busy September and October celebrating PEI Neighbour Week, Small Business Week, Thanksgiving, Halloween, and so much more across rural PEI. We've seen incredible engagement with our English classes for temporary foreign workers challenging CELPIP and IELTS exams, and for permanent residents who are upskilling and studying for their citizenship tests.

As we move into the winter months, we look forward to getting people on the ice for skating from Tignish to Eastern Kings, for holiday dinners and school events, and so much more. If you know someone who has just moved to a rural community in PEI, encourage them to reach out so that they can experience the best that PEI has to offer with the help of PEI Community Navigators.

-Maxine Rennie

OUR MISSION

Individuals and families who choose to settle in rural PEI offer incredible value to the communities that they settle. In each of our numerous communities dotting the coastline or the inland rolling hills of our Island, you'll find a diverse group of community members who settled in PEI or were born as Islanders, coming together to help each other and create a prosperous and fulfilling life in Rural PEI. We are here to support the inclusion of our newest residents in all aspects of rural PEI life.

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SERVING RURAL PEI FROM TIP TO TIP, WITH PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS



As PEI Community Navigators, we offer settlement support to people who move to rural PEI. Lindee and Rachel work in Eastern PEI, covering everywhere from Stratford to East Point. Julie Ann and Kristi cover the rural areas between Charlottetown and Summerside. Scott and Rommel cover the areas from Summerside to North Cape. We wanted to take a moment to ask each of the Navigators what their favourite part of the job is! Read below to find out!

Lindee: *My favourite part of the job is getting to know people deeply during the harder parts of their journeys, so that when the good news arrives we can truly celebrate the joy together. Things like clients letting us know they've gotten their Permanent Residency or Families arriving are my biggest highlights!*

Rachel: *My favourite part of the job is: There are many aspects of this job that I love, but one aspect of this work that I love the most is the privilege of connecting with newcomers from around the world, hearing their stories, and gaining a glimpse into their lives. It is incredibly rewarding to play a small role in helping individuals and families settle into PEI and build a sense of belonging here. One of the greatest joys of this work is celebrating alongside them when they achieve their goals, whether that means obtaining permanent residency, establishing roots, or beginning a new chapter of their lives here.*

Julie Ann: *My favourite part of the job is to having an opportunity to help newcomers on their settlement needs in rural PEI. I am a living testament of how they helped me navigate and surpass the journey that I faced. And want our newcomers experience the same service too.*

Kristi: *My favourite part of the job is celebrating the diverse cultures, traditions, and identities of our clients, making everyone feel welcomed, valued and at home in our community.*

Scott: *My favourite part of the job is the privilege to meet so many wonderful people!... To learn from them, walk with them awhile in their journeys, share in their joys (and sadly, sometimes sorrows), and in turn see the world with a broader, more diverse, and culturally* inclusive lens!

Rommel: *My favourite part of the job is having the honor of being part of newcomers' settlement journeys and witnessing their many success stories. It brings me great pride to share these stories with others, knowing that I was able to play a small but meaningful role in their journey as a settlement worker.*

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FROM THE WESTERN PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS...

As the vibrant summer flew by, the changing colors of fall transformed the beautiful landscapes here in the west into a dreamy, picturesque panorama. It's the perfect time to reflect on the past few months, celebrate our connections with the community, and share the highlights of our initiatives.

To kick things off, Western PEI Community Navigators spearheaded the celebration of Philippine Independence Day on June 11th. The event began with a Philippine flag-raising ceremony and concluded with a community feast featuring delicious Filipino dishes. This was followed by Mexico's Independence Day celebration on September 16th, held alongside other regional events in support of PEI Neighbour Week, organized by PEI Community Navigators across the island.

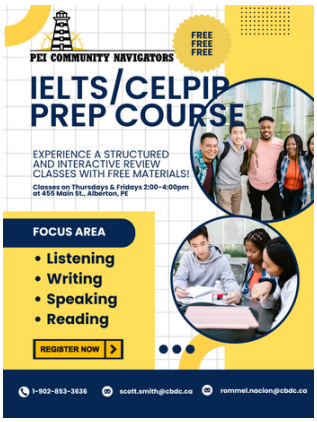
During Small Business Week, from October 19th–23rd, we successfully visited numerous local businesses, meeting and greeting business owners and foreign workers to strengthen our relationships within the community. We also partnered with the Town of Alberton to organize a pumpkin-carving event on October 24th. With 32 pumpkins and 100 bags of goodies prepared, the event brought smiles to local and newcomer children alike.

Stay tuned for our upcoming events! Our EAL Program has officially opened registration for IELTS/CELPIP review classes and is welcoming participants to join our English Conversation Circle. Meanwhile, we're busy planning several SWIS events featuring sports and arts activities to bring our community together this coming winter. We are also planning to join the Christmas parade both in the town of Alberton and O'Leary this coming December! Exciting activities are on the way, and we can't wait to share more with you!



We don't accomplish anything in this world alone... and whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads from one to another that creates something.

Sandra Day O' Connor









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CAPTURED FUN EVENTS ~ FROM THE WESTERN PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS

Independence Day Celebrations for Mexico and the Philippines









Small Business Week





Pumpkin Carving







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From the CENTRAL PEI Community Navigators

PEI Neighbour Week Highlights









On September 17, as part of PEI Neighbour Week, the Central PEI community came together in Kinkora for a successful Meet and Greet event focused on welcoming newcomers, connecting local residents, and strengthening community partnerships.

The event brought together community partners, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of Kinkora, the MLA for the Kinkora District, newcomers, and local residents. Community partners showcased their services and resources through information booths, creating opportunities for meaningful conversations and the exchange of information.

The Meet and Greet provided a welcoming space for newcomers and local residents to connect, share experiences, learn from one another, and discover available community services and supports. Entertainment and a warm, inviting atmosphere helped foster a sense of belonging and encouraged social connections.

The event highlighted the importance of collaboration, inclusion, and community engagement. By bringing together residents, newcomers, community organizations, and local leaders, the initiative helped strengthen relationships, promote awareness of local resources, and support the development of a more welcoming and connected Central PEI community.

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Event Highlights



APPLE PICKING



SMALL BUSINESS WEEK









PEITF CONFERENCE



Lest We Forget

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Upcoming Events



- **Conversation Circle - TBA**
- **Home Alone Session - TBA**
- **Financial Literacy Session - TBA**

We're looking for volunteers to join the Central PEI Community Navigators Steering Committee. Share your ideas, bring your perspective, and help create a more connected, inclusive, and vibrant community.

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FROM THE EASTERN PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS

Q3 Community News

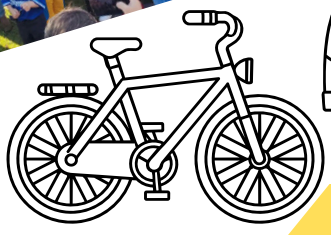
So many small community groups and individuals support our work in various ways, and we truly couldn't offer the services we do without our excellent community partners and volunteers. Today, we're going to highlight the Souris WAVE group. WAVE stands for Welcoming All, Valuing Everyone, and is a relatively new initiative started by a group of mostly retired ladies from the Souris area, who felt that the newcomers in the area could benefit from knowing more community members whether it be while they were here seasonally or whether they were working toward permanent residency. The group has partnered with the Town of Souris as well as the Eastern PEI Community Navigators and Go!East to offer a variety of events and initiatives. Their primary connection point is WhatsApp, which is a free and highly utilized chat app which allows users to text without the need for a local phone number by utilizing wifi. This fall, the group gathered Halloween costume donations and outfitted a number of kids and adults in the community for Halloween. In the Spring, they gathered bicycle donations from the community and from the Reach Foundation, and helped a number of people to gain transportation around the Souris area! Now, they're gathering winter clothing donations and luggage so that travelling workers can return home with their belongings, and workers who are staying are able to enjoy our winters by being properly dressed for the weather. A big shout out to this awesome group of people with big hearts and helping hands!











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FROM THE EASTERN PEI COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS

Upcoming Events







Stay tuned for winter Learn to Skate dates!







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The English as an Additional Language (EAL) Program is one of the settlement services offered by Community Navigators across the island, making a positive and lasting impact on newcomers. Over the past four years, the program has supported more than 100 newcomers from different parts of the world.

As spring arrived this year, many of our former IELTS/CELPIP Review Class students had already achieved their goal of obtaining permanent resident status, while others were well on their way. Meanwhile, several participants in our English Conversation Circle have successfully moved on to better job opportunities.

Are you interested, or do you know someone who could benefit from these free classes? The Community Navigators would love to hear from you! We're here to help newcomers build their confidence, strengthen their English skills, and take the next step toward a brighter future.

TRIVIA TIME!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, around 4,000 words are added to the dictionary. For instance, the word 'lol' was included in the Oxford English Dictionary back in 2011.

William Shakespeare, a famous 16th-century English playwright, invented over 1,000 words, including birthplace, blushing, undress, torture, cold-blooded, etc.

The word Goodbye originated from an Old English phrase that means "God be with you".



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