



Winter 2023 - Issue #4

A Message from the ED

Dear friends,

I was going to begin this message with a "Happy New Year" greeting but I quickly realized that we are already in the third month of the year. How time flies, doesn't it?

For us at IWS, the best part of March is always the opportunity to join the global community in celebrating the annual International Women's Day (IWD). This year's celebration is a very special one because we have the opportunity to bring together women from all walks of life for our inaugural WomenConnect Event scheduled for Friday, March 10. This will be a 3-in-1 event in honour of IWD, and in appreciation of our

members and volunteers for their generous support of our efforts during the April 2022/March 2023 fiscal year.

The theme of the event is #EmbraceEquity. Being that all of our work over the years has been dedicated to creating equitable opportunities and outcomes for our women, we could not be more excited for this inaugural event. We look forward to the honour of your presence, if you have registered to attend.

As always, my team and I are grateful for your continuing support of our efforts. Enjoy the rest of the winter, and happy spring, in advance.

- Ijeoma Nwamuo, Executive Director

Program Spotlight

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM (ETP)

Who can participate?

- *Newcomers who have lived in Saskatchewan for less than five years*
- *Actively searching for entry level jobs*

In the first nine weeks, clients participate in onsite and/or online classes from Monday to Friday followed by six weeks of mandatory work placements where clients gain real Canadian work experience in various fields.

The program also offers participants the opportunity to receive customized training support in: WHMIS, First Aid & CPR, Personal Care Worker Course, Food Safety Level 1 and Service Best.

Our spring intake for the program begins on March 20.



ETP participants graduated from the program in December 2022.

ETP covers the following:

- Employability skills workshops
- Preparing for interviews
- Developing resumés and cover letters
- Information on Saskatchewan labour market





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Client Success Stories

NICKEL

WOMEN CONNECT PARTICIPANT



THE IWS IMPACT

As a newcomer to Saskatoon, I wanted to find a network to build relationships. In my quest for this, I learned about IWS and took a closer look at some of the programs being offered.

My interest was piqued upon learning about the WomenConnect program. So far, the sessions have been fun, enlightening, and interactive.

I truly appreciate the space created, with amazing women from varied backgrounds to share and connect.

The hosts are warm and welcoming, and provided a safe space where persons feel comfortable to share without feeling judged.

I look forward to attending and connecting at the WomenConnect program on March 10.

LYUBOV

PREVIOUS PREP-UP PARTICIPANT

THE IWS IMPACT

In the Winter of 2022-23, I participated and graduated from the Prep-Up employment readiness program at International Women of Saskatoon.

During this time, I received a lot of valuable information about job hunting and how to best present myself as a person. I learned about different skills and how it works in teams.

Now I know how to write a cover letter and a perfect resumé, and I know how to apply for an application form to work. This program prepared me for job interviews in Canadian culture.

I highly recommend that everyone take this course before starting their job search.





International Women of Saskatoon (IWS) Inc.

Empowering Newcomer, Immigrant and Refugee Women; Supporting their Families



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Meet the IWS team

LEAH REYNOLDS

FINANCE COORDINATOR



TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF!

My name is Leah Reynolds, and I was born and raised in Saskatoon. I have volunteered with the Saskatoon SPCA for years and am a past and current board member with them.

WHY DID YOU JOIN IWS?

IWS has a strong collaborative environment, and we have the best team to enable immigrant and refugee women and their families to succeed. I strongly believe that non-profits such as IWS provide services vital to our community that would otherwise be missing.

WHICH IWS VALUE DO YOU RESONATE THE MOST WITH AND WHY?

I think that by empowering other people to succeed, we are not only contributing toward the economic and social well being of others, we are strengthening ourselves.

WHAT DO YOU WANT LOCALS IN SASKATCHEWAN TO KNOW ABOUT REFUGEES, IMMIGRANTS AND NEWCOMERS?

Refugees, immigrants and newcomers want to provide a good life for themselves and their families, like we all do. We all have experiences and knowledge to learn from each other, and we all have value to add to our communities. Combining the best of different cultures makes us stronger. Saskatchewan has a long history of welcoming refugees, immigrants, and newcomers. After all, Ukrainian refugees, fleeing war and famine over a hundred years ago, helped make the province what it is today.

Get Involved!

JOIN OUR BOARD!

If you're interested in getting involved and helping us lead this great organization, please email info@iwssaskatoon.org for more information.

DONATE!

Your money would help our operations and allow us to continue helping newcomers to Saskatchewan. Click [here](#) to make a tax deductible donation.

SPREAD THE WORD!

We offer a number of settlement services for Newcomer, Immigrant & Refugee Women & Their Families! If you know someone who would benefit from our services, please contact us at:

- Email: info@iwssaskatoon.org
- Phone: 306-978-6611

Our Language Assessment & Referral Centre (LARC) Saskatchewan programs operate in:

- Saskatoon
- Regina
- Prince Albert
- Moose Jaw

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Below are typical volunteer opportunities at IWS:

- Assist our Drop-in EAL classes
- One-on-one Tutoring
- Special Events Assistance
- Children & Youth Program Assistance

Click [here](#) to volunteer.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Follow us on social media to get updates from IWS!

