

ABOUT THE DIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Based in the Ted Rogers School of Management Diversity Institute is an **action-oriented research centre** working with partners to:

- Undertake research to advance diversity and inclusion in the workplace
- Develop customized strategies, programming, and resources
- Research lead for the Future Skills Centre, Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub, SSHRC PG - Inclusive Innovation and Entrepreneurship Network (IIE-Net), Ecosystem Partner – 50-30 Challenge

- Founded in 1999
- Committed to social justice but grounded in "the business case" for diversity and inclusion and ecological model of change
- 130+ full-time research staff
- 250+ industry, community and government partners
- Named a UN Prime "best practice"



Our Experience



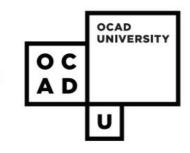
New citizens' group created to privately sponsor 1,000 Syrian Refugees in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Focused on "Canadian Connections" – June 17, 2015

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Lifeline Syria Challenge

in collaboration with OCAD University, University of Toronto and York University

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Created to engage the
University with public and
private partners - Launched
July 20, 2015

RULSC mobilized
1000 volunteers and
raised \$5m to
sponsor more than
500 families and
support thousands
of refugees creating
WIL for more than
500 students

Public, private & NGO collaboration















TEMPLE HAR ZION PARTNERS WITH MOSQUE NEXT DOOR TO SPONSOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

By Sheri Shefa, Staff Reporter - March 7, 2016

























Syrian refugees cooking up a storm in Toronto restaurants: Chef hopes Newcomer Kitchen concept spreads to other Toronto restaurants By Mary Wiens, CBC News - May 12, 2016





Operation Syria: Challenges, successes and paying it forward

3 MILLION CANADIANS ENGAGED WITH SYRIAN REFUGEES

(Environics, 2021)



Stories of success: The Hadid Family just became citizens. They are employed. Their children are excelling. Their extended family is now here.



Serving Canadians: Dr. Nassif qualified to practice dentistry in Canada and he and his family have moved to Newfoundland and bought a home. The children excel in school

Tareq Hadhad celebrated the expansion of Peace By Chocolate in September, 2017.



Creating Jobs: Entrepreneurs created businesses now employing thousands

LIFELINE AFGHANISTAN

National, non-partisan network of individuals and organizations responding to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Focused on engaging Canadians in supporting private sponsorship, developing innovative strategies to provide social and economic opportunities for Afghan refugees to Canada.

- Build awareness and engagement of civil society in the sponsorship of Afghan refugees
- Curate resources and connect to organizations supporting Afghan refugees through humanitarian relief, advocacy, settlement, service provision, research and others
- Work with Sponsorship Agreement Holders and others to engage Canadians in private sponsorship and to provide practical support to facilitate the process

- Support skills assessment and trauma informed approaches to skills development
- Work with employers and service providers to create pathways to economic and social inclusion
- Promote evidence based, innovative and collaborative approaches to supporting success of refugees

Founding Partners



























































































Phase I: Pathways

Government
Assisted Refugees
(GAR)

Student VISAs

Privately Sponsored Refugees (PSR)

Federal Skilled Worker (Express Entry) Blended Visa Office Referred Refugees (BVOR)

Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot

Phase II: Settlement

Fundraising

In-Kind Donations

Volunteers

Social Capital and Mentoring

Career Pathing

Phase III: Training/employment

Assessments

Career Pathing/ Training Recruitment/
Matching

Employment and Wrap Around Supports

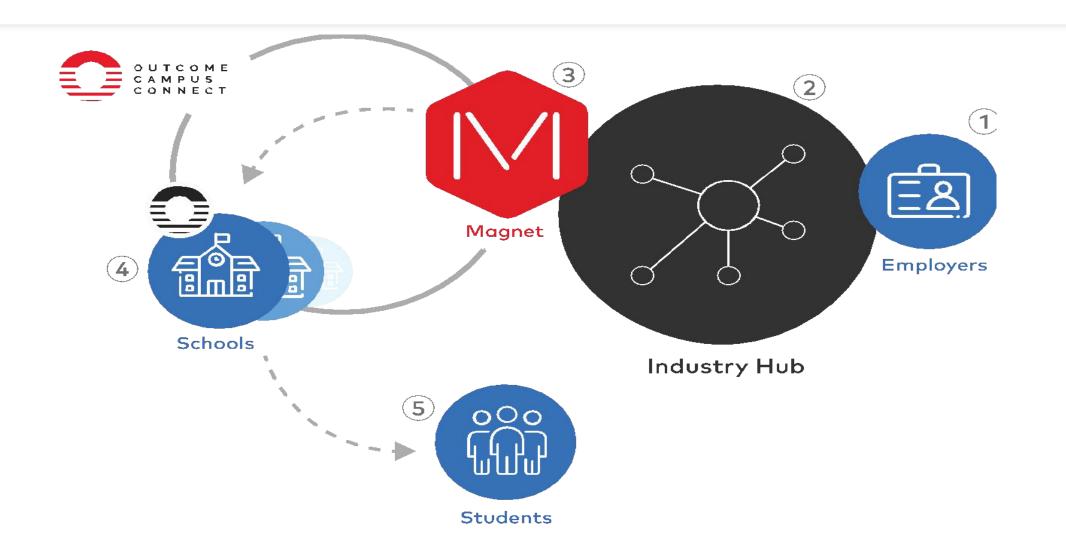
Evaluation







SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT ECOSYSTEM



Pathways to Employment

- Complement work of WUSC and SARS and SAHs and others
- Advocacy re definitions and pathways
 - Address Dual Intent for Student Visas
 - Prima Facie Definitions of Refugee
 - Lift caps to facilitate private sponsorship
 - More efficient economic pathways
- Applied Action Oriented Research and Innovation (FSC)
 - Labour market and employer needs
 - Assessments of competencies and "readiness to earn" (pre- and post-arrival)
 - Innovative approaches to ESL,
 - Demand driven employer centered training and micro-credentials (skills for success, digital skills, general labourer)
 - Youth supports (Study Buddy)
 - Wrap around supports mental health, language, mentoring, childcare, housing, transportation
 - Magnet job matching
 - Foreign credential recognition and pathways
- Community and employer engagement











Inclusive "Career Pathing"

The end-to-end reskilling journey

Encouraging user entry



Users need an entryway into the lifelong learning ecosystem. Building self-efficacy



a belief they can succeed throughout the lourney. Navigating careers and systems



a clear view of the pathways to success, Assisting with economic and social barriers



help managing barriers like childcare and financial insecurity. Providing good content and good teaching



scaffolded, engaging, and positively affirming content, Sustaining support



and continued support for on-the-job success and lifelong learning.

NEW NARRATIVES: "BRAND CANADA"



Tareq Hadhad celebrated the expansion of Peace By Chocolate in September, 2017. The business is now hiring 25 more people. (Emma Davie/CBC)



THANK YOU

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