

## Programs For Newcomers to Canada

Alta Vista  
2516 Alta Vista,  
Ottawa Ontario,  
Telephone: -



### Overview | [Location](#)

## Programs for Newcomers to Canada

Welcome to Canada! The Ottawa Public Library can help you learn English, find a job, find housing and find information about education, health care, family issues, or issues such as the law and immigration. Newcomer Information Officers (NIOs) are available to assist you at the following OPL branches: Alta Vista, Beaverbrook, Elmvale Acres, Greenboro, Main Library, Nepean Centrepointe, North Gloucester, Orleans, Ruth E. Dickinson and St-Laurent.

The Ottawa Public Library is a partner in the provincial library Settlement Partnership program. The LSP program is offered in partnership between Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Ottawa Public Library and Local Settlement Providers. This program places Newcomer Information Officers in public libraries to help newcomer adjust to life in Canada.

Programs are free and registration information is indicated only if registration is required.

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Bienvenue au Canada! La Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa peut vous aider à apprendre l'anglais, à préparer votre examen de conduite automobile ou de citoyenneté ou à trouver de l'information sur l'éducation, les problèmes familiaux, le logement et divers autres services d'établissement.

Les agents d'information aux nouveaux arrivants peuvent vous aider dans les succursales suivantes de la BPO : Alta Vista, Bibliothèque centrale, Beaverbrook, Elmvale Acres, Greenboro, Nepean Centrepointe, Gloucester Nord, Orléans, Ruth E. Dickinson et St-Laurent.

Les programmes sont offerts gratuitement et des renseignements sur l'inscription ne sont fournis que si celle-ci est obligatoire.

### Alta Vista

**Learn How to Sponsor Your Family to Come to Canada**  
English or French One-on-One Conversation  
Conversation individuelle en français ou anglais  
One-on-one Help to Prepare for Your Canadian Citizenship test

**English Conversation Group**  
Mondays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
January 11, 18, 25  
February 1, 8, 22,  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
April 12, 19, 26  
May 3, 10, 17, 31  
Tuesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
January 12, 19, 26  
February 2, 9, 16, 23  
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
April 6, 13, 20, 27  
May 4, 11, 18, 25

Call 613-797-4263 to register.  
Composez le 613-797-4263 to register.

**Homework Club and Tutoring for ESL students**

Wednesdays, 4:00 –6:00 p.m

**Beaverbrook**

**Mandarin Children's Circle for families with Stories, Songs, Rhymes and a Craft**

Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Saturdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
January 9  
February 13  
March 13  
April 10  
May 8

**Seniors' English-Mandarin Circle**

Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Mondays,  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or  
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.  
January 11, 18, 25  
February 1, 8, 22  
March 1, 8, 22, 29  
April 12, 19, 26  
May 3, 10, 17, 31

**Conversation Fun and Activities for ESL Learners**

Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  
January 13, 20, 27  
February 3, 10, 17, 24  
March 3, 10, 24, 31  
April 7, 14, 21, 28  
May 5, 12, 19, 26

**Women's Friendship Circle**

Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Wednesdays,  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
January 20  
February 3, 17  
March 3, 24  
April 7, 21  
May 5, 19

**Mandarin-English Info Session:**

Old Age Security  
Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Monday, April 26, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

**Community Social Group in Mandarin and English**

Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Wednesdays,  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
January 13, 27  
February 10, 24  
March 10, 31  
April 14, 28  
May 12, 26

**Russian Social Group Drop-in**

This program is conducted in Russian and English.  
Tuesdays, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
January 19  
February 16  
March 16  
April 20  
May 18

**Family Storytime in Mandarin with Rhymes and Songs**

Wednesdays, 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
January 20, 27  
February 3, 10, 17, 24  
April 14, 21, 28  
May 5, 12, 19

**Mandarin-English Info Session:**

Health Services for Seniors  
Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Monday, February 22,  
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

**Mandarin-English Info Session:**

Ontario Education System  
Call 613-899-3128 to register.  
Monday, May 31, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

## Elmvale Acres

### **English Conversation for Newcomers**

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
January 12, 19, 26  
February 2, 9, 16, 23  
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
April 6, 13, 20, 27  
May 4, 11, 18, 25

### **Wills and Estates**

Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Wednesday, February 10,  
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

### **Are You Ready for an Emergency?**

Learn about planning for an emergency.  
Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, March 8, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### **How to Start a Business in Ontario**

Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, April 26, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Spring Fun in the Capital:**

Discover Ottawa Region Activities  
Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, May 24, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Health Services for Seniors**

Meet a community health worker from the South-East Ottawa Community Health Care Centre and find about services available.  
Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Wednesday, February 3,  
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

### **Safe Youth, Safe Community:**

Learn how to protect youth from gang activities.  
Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, February 22,  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### **One-on-one Help to Prepare for Your Canadian Citizenship Test**

Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, March 22, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### **How to Get an Ontario Driver's License**

Arabic translation is available. Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Monday, May 10, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

## Emerald Plaza

### **English Conversation Circle**

Wednesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
January 6, 13, 20, 27  
February 3, 10, 17, 24  
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
April 7, 14, 21, 28  
May 5, 12, 19, 26

## Greenboro

### **Newcomers' Health Awareness Fair in February**

Check the Library website for more information.

### **Newcomer Information and Services: One-on-One Sessions**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.

### **How to Prepare for Your Canadian Citizenship Test**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.  
Thursday, January 14,  
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### **How to Get an Ontario G1 Driver's**

**ESL Conversation Group**

Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

January 7, 14, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

May 6, 13, 20, 27

Mondays, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

January 11, 19, 25

February 1, 8, 22

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 12, 19, 26

May 3, 10, 17, 31

**License**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.

Thursday, February 18,

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Kurdish Storytelling, Games and Rhymes**

Call 613-796-7221 or e-mail

pahmed@lassa.ca to register.

Sundays, 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

January 31

February 28

March 28

April 25

**Main Library / Bibliothèque centrale****Sunday ESL Conversation Group**

Sundays, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

January 17, 24, 31

February 7, 14, 21, 28

March 7, 14, 21, 28

April 11, 18, 25

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**ESL for Seniors**

Mondays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

January 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 12, 19, 26

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

**English Corner Conversation Group: Intermediate to Advanced**

Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

January 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 12, 19, 26

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

January 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 5, 12, 19, 26

**Life Insurance and Related Products**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

January 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 4, 11, 18, 25

**Settlement Services in Arabic and Kurdish: One-on-One Sessions**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.

January 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 4, 11, 18, 25

[Bilingual / Bilingue]

**Homework Club and Tutoring for ESL and FSL Students. Age 6- 18.**

Call 613-818-7082 to register.

Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

January 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 4, 11, 18, 25

June 1, 8, 15

Thursdays, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

January 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25  
March 4, 11  
April 8, 15, 22, 29  
May 6, 13, 20, 27  
June 3, 10, 17

[Bilingual / Bilingue]

**Club de devoirs et mentorat pour  
élèves ALS/FLS de 6-18 ans**

Composez le 613-818-7082 pour  
s'inscrire.

Les mardis, 17 h – 18 h 30

19, 26 janvier

2, 9, 16, 23 février

2, 9 mars

6, 13, 20, 27 avril

4, 11, 18, 25 mai

1, 8, 15 juin

Les jeudis, 17 h – 18 h 30

21, 28 janvier

4, 11, 18, 25 février

4, 11 mars

8, 15, 22, 29 avril

6, 13, 20, 27 mai

3, 10, 17 juin

**ESL Conversation Group**

Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

January 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

May 6, 13, 20, 27

**Chinese New Year Celebration for  
Seniors in Mandarin and English**

Sunday, February 7,

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Black History Month: Family  
Celebration with African and  
Caribbean Stories**

Call 613-818-7082 to register.

Sunday, February 21,

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Seniors' Discussion Group in  
Mandarin**

Fridays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

February 26

March 26

April 30

May 28

**International Day to End Racism:**

Music, Slam Poetry and Art by

Local Youth

Call 613-818-7082 to register.

Saturday, March 20,

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**Computer ABCs in Mandarin**

Call 613-899-3108 to register.

Fridays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

March 5, 12, 19

April 2, 9, 16

May 7, 14, 21

**Happy Nourooz! Celebrate the  
First Day of Spring and the  
Persian New Year**

Sunday, March 21, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Financial Planning and Mortgages**

Call 613-796-7221 to register.

Tuesday, March 23, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

**Asian Heritage Family Celebration  
with Music, Dancing and  
Activities**

Sunday, May 16, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Nepean Centrepointe**

**Job Search Workshop in  
Mandarin**

Call 613-899-3108 to register.

Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

January 16, 23, 30

February 13, 20, 27

March 13, 20, 27

April 10, 17, 24

May 1, 8, 15

**ESL Conversation Group and  
Activities**

Help available for beginners.

Call 613-899-3108 to register.

Wednesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. or

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

January 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7, 14, 21, 28  
May 5, 12, 19, 26

**FSL Conversation Group and Activities**

Help available for beginners.  
Call 613-899-3108 to register.  
Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
January 20, 27  
February 3, 10, 17, 24  
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
April 7, 14, 21, 28  
May 5, 12, 19, 26

**Seniors' Social Group in Mandarin: Learn about Recreation Resources,**

**Social Benefits, Health and Culture in our community**  
Call 613-899-3108 to register.  
Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
January 26  
February 23  
March 30  
April 27  
May 25

**Social Services, Tax Returns and Community Resources in Mandarin**

Call 613-899-3108 to register.  
Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
January 27  
February 24  
March 31  
April 7  
May 26

**Computer ABCs in Mandarin**

Call 613-899-3108 to register.  
Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
February 2, 9, 16  
March 2, 9, 16  
April 6, 20

**Mandarin Stories, Fun, Games and Crafts for Families**

Call 613-899-3108 to register.  
Saturdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
February 6  
March 6  
April 3  
May 1

**North Gloucester Nord**

**Are You Ready for an Emergency?**

Learn about planning for an emergency with a City of Ottawa trainer.  
Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Fridays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
January 8  
May 14

**Starting a Business: Library Resources**

Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Friday, January 22, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Services and Resources for Newcomers in English with Arabic Translation**

Call 613-668-5594 to register.  
Thursday, January 28,  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Cross Cultural Awareness: Customs in Different Countries**

Thursday, February 4,  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Understanding the Citizenship Process: Eligibility Requirements, Application and Process**

Call 613-668-5594 to register,  
or drop in.  
Thursday, March 4, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Thursday, April 29, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**Safe Youth, Safe Community**

Learn how to protect youth from gang activities. Call 613-668-5594 to register, or drop in.  
Fridays, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
February 19

**How to Get an Ontario G1 Driver's License: Help with your Application in English with Arabic**

April 15

**Understanding the Citizenship Process**

Learn how to prepare for the citizenship exam. Presented by Manal Abouchakra from Lebanese Arab Social Services Agency. This program is offered in English with Arabic translation. Call 613-668-5594 to register. Thursday, November 26, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Translation**

Call 613-668-5594 to register. Friday, March 19, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Spring Into Spring: Discover Ottawa Activities**

Call 613-668-5594 to register, or drop in. Friday, May 28, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

**Rosemount**

**English Conversation Circle and Group Activities**

Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
January 4, 11, 18, 25  
February 1, 8, 22  
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

**Ruth E. Dickinson**

**Community Social Group**

Call 613-899-3128 to register. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
January 12, 19, 26  
February 2, 9, 16  
March 2, 9, 23  
April 6, 13, 20  
May 4, 11, 18

**ESL Conversation Group**

Open to all levels. Call 613-899-3128 to register. Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.  
January 14, 21, 29  
February 4, 11, 18  
March 4, 11, 25  
April 1, 8, 15  
May 6, 13, 20, 27

**Mandarin-English Children's Circle with Stories, Songs, Rhymes and a Craft**

Call 613-899-3128 to register. Saturdays, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
January 23  
February 27  
March 13  
April 24  
May 22

**Newcomer Workshops on Seniors Health Services, Benefits, Housing and Old Age Security**

Call 613-899-3128 to register. February 23  
March 30  
April 27  
May 25

**Seniors' English Circle**

Call 613-899-3128 to register. Mondays, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
January 11, 18, 25  
February 1, 8, 15, 22  
March 1, 8, 22, 29  
April 5, 12, 19, 26  
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

**St-Laurent**

**Carrefour des nouveaux arrivants  
francophones: Information pour  
une meilleure intégration**

Pour prendre rendez-vous :  
613-255-5733

**French Conversation in Small  
Groups**

Call 613-255-5733 to register.

Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

January 11, 18, 25

February 1, 8, 22

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 12, 19, 26

May 3, 10, 17

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

January 12, 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 4, 11, 18

**Conversation anglaise en petits  
groupes**

Composez le 613-255-5733  
pour s'inscrire.

Les mercredis, 18 h 30 – 20 h

13, 20, 27 janvier

3, 10, 17, 24 février

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 mars

7, 14, 21, 28 avril

5, 12, 19 mai

Les jeudis, 18 h 30 – 20 h

14, 21, 28 janvier

4, 11, 18, 25 février

4, 11, 18, 25 mars

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 avril

6, 13, 20 mai