



# CATHOLIC CENTRE FOR IMMIGRANTS CENTRE CATHOLIQUE POUR IMMIGRANTS

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September 1, 2017

Alex Munter, CEO  
Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario  
401 Smyth Road  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1H 8L1

Dear Alex,

In late 2015, when the newly elected federal government announced that Canada would accept 25,000 Syrian refugees, we found ourselves with an uncommon opportunity. Moments like these are rare in a lifetime.

Resettling 2,000 of these newcomers in the National Capital Region urgently required full, transparent collaboration of settlement agencies, health-care organizations and community partners. CHEO seized the day. Your newcomer navigator program, in particular, helped bridge the gap between CHEO, the Catholic Centre for Immigration, and the newcomer communities.

The compassionate work of your staff increased collaboration and streamlined access to health care for these newcomer families, many including young children.

Canada is a large, far-flung country with a small population rooted in many cultures. It is rare that we come together, all of us, in a shared national project. Every four years we welcome one million new people to Canada. Resettling refugees is one such national undertaking.

Congratulations on developing the Newcomer Navigator Toolkit and launching it on the website [www.SimplifyingTheJourney.ca](http://www.SimplifyingTheJourney.ca). This toolkit will take what CHEO learned about assisting newcomers and make it available to organizations across Canada, improving our national project. With CHEO as a corporate citizen, Canada is an even more welcoming place. Thank you.

Regards,

Carl Nicholson  
Executive Director  
Catholic immigration Center