

DIVERSE. INCLUSIVE. TOGETHER.



The Municipality of Jasper believes in the advancement of a connected and equitable society. Celebrating diversity and practicing inclusion promotes respect for all citizens, strengthens the community, reduces causes of disadvantage and inequality and ensures that all citizens of Jasper enjoy the best quality of possible.

- **Adapted from the Municipality of Jasper Community Sustainability Plan**

HOW DIVERSE IS JASPER?

Data taken from Statistics Canada's 2016 Census shows that:

- 700 of 4,446 (15.7%) of respondents identified as having a mother tongue other than English or French
- 620 of 3,675 (16.8%) of people in private households were identified as immigrants (permanent residents and naturalized citizens)
- 790 of 3,675 (21.5%) of people in private households are first generation residents of Canada (i.e. were born outside of Canada). This figure is inclusive of non-permanent residents.

RACIALIZED PEOPLE

- **Racialization** (noun): using social and biological markers (e.g. skin colour, cultural habits, hair, language, accents, religion, political beliefs and surnames) to label or perceive a person as 'non-white'. If you're racialized, you're likely to be marginalized and face discrimination at some level.
- While '**visible minority**' is the term used in Canada's human rights legislation, the term 'Racialized People' is preferred. Racialized groups may experience unequal treatment on the basis of race, ethnicity, language, religion and culture.
- 485 of 3,675 (13%) of people in private households identified as racialized persons, according to the 2016 Census profile for Jasper.
- Racialized communities face high levels of poverty. The 2006 Census showed that the overall poverty rate in Canada was 11%. But, for racialized persons it was 22%, compared to 9% for non-racialized persons. This despite the fact that racialized persons living in poverty were more likely to have a university degree than non racialized persons living in poverty.

This diversity 'snapshot' is intended to help you learn more about the people in our community who risk exclusion. Each snapshot is about a specific group, but there is diversity within each group. As such, these snapshots are not all encompassing, they are rather a jumping off point for discussion.

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LOCAL INITIATIVES

Action brings about change! Here's how you can take part:

- Watch the video, What Makes A Strong Community, on the Municipal website: www.jasper-alberta.com.
- The Municipality of Jasper is launching a Safe Space Initiative. Look for signs in local businesses, organizations and public spaces. Places where this sign is posted have pledged to provide fair, equitable and unbiased service, opportunities and environments.
- Make a personal commitment to inclusivity by filling out a Welcoming and Inclusive Communities pledge. Pledges will be available at community events. A Diversity Wall will be created at the Municipal Library, showcasing pledges and our residents' commitment to diversity and inclusion.

RESOURCES & PROGRAMS FOR NEWCOMERS

- **Community Dinners** take place Sunday evenings at the Jasper Activity Centre, 5pm. Dinner is by donation and provides an opportunity for people to create connections. (January to March)
- **Settlement Services**, located upstairs in the Jasper Community & Family Services office, 627 Patricia St. For help with any newcomer questions: 780-852-8070 or settlement@town.jasper.ab.ca.
- **ESL courses** are offered through the Jasper Employment and Education Centre, 631 Patricia St. Look for advertisements around town about the next opportunity for learning or call JEEC at 780-852-4418.
- **Jasper Municipal Library**, 500 Robson Dr., offers free adult programs, children's programs & internet.
- **Mosaic Mondays**: Every Monday, 6:30pm, at the Jasper Municipal Library. Are you a newcomer? Improve your English speaking and listening skills. Long time resident? Join to connect with Jasper's rich cultural diversity. Each Monday, a different volunteer will lead a conversation on a topic of their choice.
- **Settlement Services at School**: Are you a newcomer navigating an unfamiliar school system? Settlement Services is at the high school: Mondays, 8:30am to noon, and at the elementary school: Fridays, 8:30am to noon.
- **Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)**: Free instruction for permanent residents. Available in Jasper, register through Norquest College: www.norquest.ca or contact Settlement Services.
- **Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Group**, meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Jasper Municipal Library, 7-9pm, to discuss and problem solve around issues facing newcomers to Jasper.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

City of St. Albert | Canadian Centre for Diversity & Inclusion
Equity & Inclusion Lens Handbook - City of Ottawa and CAWI