

Important Things to Do When You Arrive

Here you will find a checklist of things to do in your first weeks. Some tasks you should do right away, such as apply for your health card and your Social Insurance Number (SIN).

If you have friends or family in the municipality where you want to live, they can be a great help to you. They can show you around and help you find a place to stay. The staff at the Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association (see page 5) can also assist you to settle into your new community.



- Find a place to live. More information is on page 14.
- Apply for a Social Insurance Number (SIN) with Service Canada, 7001 Mumford Road, Mumford Towers, Tower 2. You will need a SIN card for employment and many government services. More information can be found on page 13.
- Register for a Nova Scotia Health Card. With this card, you receive insured health care services free. More information on page 19.
- Apply for Canada Child Tax Credit. See page 30.
- Open a bank account at a bank or credit union. More information can be found on page 13.
- Visit Access Nova Scotia (Registry of Motor Vehicles) to apply for your driver's license. More information is on page 18.
- Find a family doctor who is taking new patients or a community health centre close to your home by calling the Physician Information Line at 902-424-3047 or use the online directory at www.gov.ns.ca/health/physicians/physicians.asp. See page 19.
- Find a school for your children. See www.endnet.ca or see page 22.
- Visit the Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association at Chebucto Place, 7105 Chebucto Rd, Suite 201 for helpful information, services and settlement advice. More information is on page 5.
- Find English classes for you and your family. The Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre is also located at 7105 Chebucto Rd, Suite 201. More information is on page 24.
- If you apply for employment or training, you may need your qualification documents assessed or translated. For more information see the "Foreign Credentials" section on page 28.
- If you need advice about applying for a job, see the information on page 28.
- Find an employment resource centre close to your home.
- Find a library close to your home. More information is on page 25.
- Get maps of streets and bus routes at your closest HRM Customer Service Centre. More information is on page 12.
- Find a place to shop. More information is on page 15.
- Get involved in your community. See www.myhrm.ca for more information.
- Arrange for childcare. See www.ccns.org or see page 23.
- Look for information at www.halifax.ca/newcomers